

BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

**WENDY COLSEN'S SIXTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
CLASS OF 2015**



***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

AIR DOME

Author Bios

Marie Pena - I love a lot of things like animals, sports, art, shopping, etc. I'm 11.

Derek Brockington - Hi, I'm 11 years old and I really like animals. I have two brothers and one sister. I love to read books, they're the best.

Shelby Laarman - Hi, my name is Shelby and I'm very sporty. I love animals, especially the cute and cuddly ones. I'm 11.



Dedications

Marie Pena - In memory of my grandpa who was the founder of the historical society.

Derek Brockington - I dedicate this to my friends and family who gave me great ideas.

Shelby Laarman - I dedicate this to my grandma because she is always there for me when I'm sick and need her the most. I LOVE U GRANDMA!

Journal Accounts

Wednesday, June 14 1913

Tomorrow I'm leaving for a vacation to Saugatuck, Michigan. School ended seven days ago (finally!). I thought school would never end. My mom gave me this journal to write in along the way. I just walked downstairs and my mom gave me a giant hug and was stroking my long brown hair. She said she is going to miss my big brown eyes.

Thursday, June 15, 1913

I finally got to leave. My bags were in my hands getting ready to leave Gary Indiana. I was heading to the train with my mother screaming, "Bye! Bye!" That was so embarrassing! When I got on the train there was this cute boy staring at me with a big smile. I winked at him! Then I went into my seat and dozed off.

Friday, June 16, 1913

The train just pulled up into Chicago, Illinois. I need to get to the boat dock, so I can take a ride on a boat called the Tennessee. I am going to need to get there fast. The train ride was really nice. It had cushioned seats and a little snack bar. Oh, no! I am going to be late for my boat if I don't get going.

Sunday, June 18, 1913

As the boat docked in Saugatuck, I stepped outside and felt a warm breeze. I knew this trip would be the best. After some time of walking around, I saw a hotel that was so nice that I had to stay. Its name was the Butler Hotel. When I checked in to my room there was one bed, one trunk, a bathroom down the hall, a small chair and a few candles and candle holders. It was dim, but the light coming through the window was bright enough to see. Tomorrow I'm going to have a long look around meet people - maybe even get a job - but right now I need a nap.

Tuesday, June 20, 1913

This morning I went to the hotel service office and asked if they needed any workers. They said no.

I later saw an ad in the Commercial Record for a job doing housework, cooking, and cleaning for 25 cents an hour. I took the Interurban to the place to see if I could get the job. Guess what? I got the job and I only have to work on the weekends in the morning.

While shopping, I saw a dress and had to have it, so I put on hold until I have enough money.

Thursday, June 22, 1913

Today after walking around, I went to the beach. I got there by a water taxi since there was not road to the beach. I found a very nice fossil. It was round, in the shape of a shell (very pretty). I also saw that cute boy there. I winked at him again, and this time he winked back.

When I got back to the Hotel Butler, the clerk at the desk in my hotel said I got a letter from someone around town. When I got to my room I opened the letter and read it:

Dear mystery girl,

I've been seeing you around town and wondered if you would like to go to the big dance at the Pavilion six days from now. If so, I will be in the middle of the dance floor in a black tuxedo with a dark red rose waiting for you.

*Sincerely,
Secret Admirer*

Monday, June 26, 1913

Today I got another job. This job pays 50 cents an hour! I'm a piano player at an odd open theater called the Air Dome, which means that this theater does not have a roof or ceiling. It is very nice that I got another job. I work there Monday, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Wednesday, June 28, 1913

Yesterday work at the Air Dome was easy. Not many people were there. I think it was because the Pavilion is stealing our business. The Air Dome has good quality movies and usually we get a decent amount in customers.

Today I can finally buy that dress that I have been holding at the store. Just in time for the dance coming up in two days! I am so excited! I finally get to meet my secret admirer. I hope he is cute!

I am so sad because after the 4th of July I have to go home, but I can think about that later.

Friday, June 30, 1913

Oh my gosh! That dance at the Pavilion was so nice and sweet. When I got there, my secret admirer was in the middle of the room with the red rose in a handsome black tuxedo. When I went up to him, we danced and had fun and laughed. Then, being clumsy, I spilled punch on my dress and ran in to the bathroom. My date, being so charming and reliable, came in after me to see if I was alright. The evening was wonderful! He asked me to the fireworks on July 4 and then finally told me his name - John Stewart - what a nice name. I'm tired and I have still have work tomorrow. Good night!

Tuesday, July 4, 1913

Those fireworks were so beautiful. John was so nice! He bought me big puffy cotton candy. And, oh no, I just feel awful because I have to leave on July 7 which is in three days and I haven't told him yet. I am not ready to leave, but I have to so I can help my mother take care of my two younger brothers. I hope he understands. Tomorrow I am going to tell him.

Wednesday, July 5, 1913

Today I told him, and he took it badly. First he yelled and then he ran off somewhere I don't know. Two more days until I leave, and I have not seen him yet. I am beginning to wonder if he does not want to see me again. I feel badly and should have told him sooner.

I still have to pack and tomorrow have to quit my job, but I really hope he is okay.

Thursday, July 6, 1913

Today I quit my job and got my last pay. Tomorrow evening I have to go to the boat dock and get on the boat again.

Great news! I found John! After work, he was outside the Air Dome. I told him why I had to leave and he understood. He said, "Tomorrow I will take you everywhere I know and have fun before you leave!" That was really nice.

Friday, July 7, 1913

Right now I am on the boat. John and I had such a great time before I left. First we went to the movies at the Air Dome. Then he took me shopping. (Can you believe that?) We had big lunch, went swimming, and much more. Then he took me to the boat and gave me a goodbye kiss. That was my first and best summer in Saugatuck!



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THE BIG PAVILION

Author Bios

Nick McDuff - I am 11 years old. I live in Holland. I love to play sports and hang out with friends.



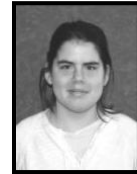
Connor Rasmussen - I am 12 years old. I live in Fennville and half the time I play with my cousins who only live a quarter mile away.



Jacob Vermeulen - I do lots of stuff like play every sport except soccer and tennis. I am 12 and live in Saugatuck. My birthday is on December 17. I have two bothers and a cool dog named Stewy. He's the best!



Hannah Schwartz - I like playing football and running. I also like owls and have a cat named Bonehead. My favorite things to eat are tacos.



Efren Jimenez - I like to play soccer. I am 12 and live in Holland. My dog's name is Abby.



Dedications

Nick McDuff - I dedicate this to my family and Spanky.

Connor Rasmussen - I dedicate this to Booboo and Lucy.

Jacob Vermeulen - I dedicate this to my family and the coolest dog, Stewy.

Hannah Schwartz - I dedicate this to Jayden.

Efren Jimenez - I dedicate this to my parents because they are nice.

Journals

April 7-14, 1959

We have just arrived from Vancouver looking to create a Big Pavilion like the one in Saugatuck. We came with our crew of four: Jacob (me), Connor, Nick, Efren, and also our maid Hannah. Nick and Connor are in a band and wanting to be my partners to build a dance hall. We have been exploring downtown Saugatuck for a few days we have found the Oval Beach, camping grounds, and our favorite place to get a snack, the Root Beer Barrel.

Then we found it, the Big Pavilion. It was flooded with people, the line to get in was so long we didn't want to wait, but we had to see how things ran, so we waited, and waited, and waited. Then we finally bought a ticket and entered the dance hall. It was utterly amazing! There were

people dancing everywhere. It was worse than the line to actually get into the building.

Our maid Hannah was back at our fancy apartment and she was fixing us dinner, but we decided to eat at the Pavilion's diner. At the diner we had a fabulous dinner of food. We all made the decision to make a diner at our Big Pavilion in Vancouver, Canada.

After dinner, we took a break and went to the Oval Beach. We all loved the nice chilling breeze of the water. Later we got a nice refreshment at the Root Beer Barrel. After that, we decided to rest at Hotel Saugatuck.

April 14-21, 1959

On Monday we all went to the Air Dome and saw a sweet movie. We gave Hannah a break from work today. She enjoyed the day at the beach working on her tan. Later that evening, Connor, Nick, and Efren got a letter inviting them to the Big Pavilion to entertain the crowd the next night.

On Tuesday, we went to Tiffany's restaurant. We all got the hot wings that were really hot, and Hannah got a taco. Then Nick, Connor, and Efren went to the Big Pavilion to perform that night.

The Big Pavilion had a huge dance floor that was packed with people. The band was ready to perform. They were so nervous that they were sweating. But Nick got on the drums and started to play. Connor got the beat and started to play the saxophone. Efren began to sing and the crowd loved it. Hannah and Jacob were in the crowd cheering and clapping with the rest of the crowd.

After the performance, Jacob had to go to a professional golf match. Hannah had the night off and decided to go to the Big Pavilion to see some more performances. When she got there, Duke Ellington was there!!!! Hannah went to the nearest pay phone and called Jacob and Nick to come over and then contacted Connor.

The crowd was in an uproar. When Duke Ellington started to play, the crowd sang and danced. Everyone was in such good mood. Everyone was so excited, but when he left every one was so sad. What a great night!

April 21-28, 1959

The next week there was a rumor that Elvis Presley was going to be at the Big Pavilion. Everyone was going insane for him. When they heard that he was coming to the Big Pavilion, most people came there every night just to see if he was playing. The whole thing turned out to be a rumor. Too bad.

April 29-May 5, 1959

This week we have decided to go to the Camp Gray area. Our decision was based on what history has been there in the past. We heard that Amelia Earhart had been there before, and we love the outdoors and camping.

The following day we went on a nature hike and found a fox wandering in forest. We busted out our awesome camera and took a picture of the cool fox before it ran off. The next day after the fun activities in the morning, we went swimming and fishing. It was our last day at Camp Gray. Tomorrow we are going to the Big Pavilion for the celebration of Nick's birthday.

May 6, 1959

Today we went to the Holy Hock for Nick's birthday celebration. After we went to eat breakfast, we went for a walk downtown and bought some clothes for our night at the Big Pavilion.

When we walking downtown, it was about noon when we smelled smoke. We thought it wasn't anything important (like a restaurant cooking food) until we saw fire trucks racing in the direction of the Big Pavilion!

We were on our way to rush to the Big Pavilion to see if something was wrong, but before we went anywhere, I had to use the restroom. While they waited for me to finish my business, they looked out the window and saw the Big Pavilion engulfed in flames. I ran out to the window and could see boys running to get buckets and buckets of water from the Kalamazoo River. It was tremendously horrible to watch our model business going up in flames. The fire at the Big Pavilion was really starting to scare us.

We headed to the dock where our boat was to check if it was harmed, but then I had the idea to drive our boat to where the Big Pavilion. We were going to help fill buckets and throw them over the boat's rail onto the Big Pavilion. But the flames were so hot that we had to back away. We felt like a sausage in a pan. Instead, we helped the bucket brigade by filling buckets and handing them off to the boys.

But there wasn't much we could do to stop the flames from burning the Pavilion down. It didn't look good. There was no hope for it. We could see some buildings burning across the river. We started to scoop up water and dump it on the Pavilion, but it was really hot.

The firemen were telling us to move out of the water and get far away, and we noticed why. The wind was blowing northwest. Normally the wind blows to the east. If the wind wouldn't have changed then the whole town could have burnt down!

We watched in horror as the Big Pavilion burnt and started to crumble and fall. There was no way to stop it burning into nothing. It was the saddest day in our trip to Saugatuck. We didn't need that much more information to build our own pavilion, but it was a sad day to see such a groovy place burn to nothing. We didn't want to watch it burn down any more so we went back to Hotel Saugatuck, sad as a willow tree about to die.

What would we do now that the Pavilion had burnt down? We decided to go back to Vancouver and plan our design of something

similar to the Big Pavilion. We hoped everyone would like it and it would be as popular as the one in Saugatuck, just not end the way this one did.



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THE BIG POOL

Author Bios

Nick Brown - Hi, my name is Nick. I am 11 years old and in the 6th grade. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. I like to play sports such as football, basketball, and baseball. In my free time I like to play video games and all of the sports I play.



Reese Bohn - Hi my name is Reese. I also play sports. My favorite things to do are to play video games and watch movies.



Dedications

Nick Brown - I dedicate this book to my grandparents because they are amazing and get me everything.

Reese Bohn - I dedicate this book to my grandpa because he always gets me stuff and I never give him stuff.

Journal Accounts

June 29, 1938

It is June 29, 1938, and we are all packed and ready to go on our vacation to Michigan from the United Kingdom. We think it will look very different from our home in the U.K.

June 30, 1938

It is now June 30, 1936 and we are going to Michigan today. We are both very excited. We are going to take our private steamship and travel along the Atlantic Ocean. It is now 2:30 and time to head out on the sea.

July 1, 1938

It is now our first day on the sea. We really have nothing to do and we are bored. The only thing we can do is help the captain, play cards, and swim in our pool/hot tub.

July 28, 1938

We are now getting tired of the three or four things we can do on the boat. We are now both getting seasick. We are supposed to arrive in a couple of days, so I think that we will be fine until we arrive.

August 1, 1938

It is 6:00 at night and we still haven't arrived, but the captain thinks he sees land.

Now it is 9:00 and we are almost about to dock. We still are pretty far away though. We think it will take about 30 to 60 minutes.

Finally it is 9:43 and we are docked. We all still don't know what town it is though. We think it is some Indian town. We decided to go wander off into the town. Then we all saw a sign, it said *Welcome to Boston*. We had no idea what town it was, and we hadn't even heard of it. We all thought it looked like a pretty nice town, so we decided to stay there a night and leave the next morning.

August 2, 1938

The next morning we were all complementary of the hotel where we stayed. It was called the Liberty Hotel. After we ate breakfast there, we started to pack. Finally, we were ready to get on our plane.

It is now 2:30 in the afternoon and our plane is about to take off. We guess that we'll get there at about 5:30 because we are taking a plane called the Lockheed Electra that goes 160 mph.

We took off at about 2:45 and it was a little rough. We are now in the air and we really don't like it because it will be a long ride. There are only ten passengers and it is very cramped. After a couple hours we could see our landing place from the plane. We are all so excited; we can't wait to see what this town will look like.

It is now about 6:00 and we are about five minutes away from landing. We are going to land in Grand Rapids though, not Saugatuck. We had to drive there. "Yes!" we all yelled because we landed. After we landed, we got a rental car and started to drive to Saugatuck. It should take about two hours to get there.

Finally! It's 8:00 and we are in Saugatuck. We are excited to be back in Saugatuck and can't wait to go back to the Big Pool. At 9:00 we got done exploring the town and found a hotel called the Maplewood Hotel. We all thought it looked like a really nice hotel. After a couple of minutes we checked in the hotel and got a room.

August 3, 1938

The next morning we all decided to tour the town to see if anything new had happened. We went to a big place called the Big Pavilion. You could dance, roller skate, and watch movies there. We didn't do any of that though. We then walked down to the river and took the chain ferry across the river. Then we walked to Mt. Baldhead. We walked up the stairs.

We were so excited to go to the Big Pool for a swim. Two years ago when we had visited, we couldn't believe how big it was. It also had a huge slide. We had met two men who came to be lifeguards at the pool and stayed in the changing rooms to save money during the summer. They said they met a lot of girls being lifeguards.

Can you believe it? When we went to find the Big Pool, we found that it had closed down. I guess they finally made a road to Oval Beach and it stole their business. Instead of taking water taxis to the beach, people could take their own cars. We will miss the Big Pool, but will take a trip to the beach tomorrow.

After the disappointment of the Big Pool, we then went to go find a restaurant to eat dinner. We ate at Coral Gables. The place had pretty much every variety of food from hamburgers, to pizza and fish. We all got something different, but we shared it all. It was very good food. After we ate we went back to our hotel to stay the first night in Saugatuck.

August 4, 1938

The next morning we all went and ate breakfast. The place had amazing pancakes and waffles. They also had all of the other good and popular breakfast items. After we ate breakfast, we had to go back to our hotel and pack. We really didn't want to leave but we had to because our plane took off at 5:00. But we still had a lot of time because it was only 10:30 in the morning. At 11:00, we all went to the drug store and bought souvenirs for when we get back home. Then it was time to go pack and leave Saugatuck. We really didn't want to leave. It is now 1:30 and time to get our stuff, check out of our hotel and leave to Detroit.

When we got to Detroit we immediately found the airport and got on, our plane and took off to the U.K.



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CAMP GRAY

Author Bios

Shanna Strowenjans - I'm Shanna Strowenjans. I like to read and write. My friends and family are awesome to me! They support me a whole bunch!



Rita Maslanka - This is Rita Maslanka and I enjoy reading and writing. I love my family. They are a really big part in my life and mean a lot to me.



Monica Gonzalez - Hello my name is Monica Gonzalez and I like to hang out with friends and play sports like softball and basketball. I have super cool friends. Woot! Woot!



Dedications

Shanna - I dedicate this project to my mom and dad, Stephanie and James Strowenjans. They've gone through so much with me.

Rita - I dedicate this project to my Grandma, Delores Peterson. She has always been there for me.

Monica - I dedicate this project to my dad, Robert Gonzalez, because he is my daddy! And I LOVE him.

Journal Accounts

July of 1917

DAY 1

Sarah, Margret, and I arrived at Camp Gray today. We flew to Camp Gray. It was my first time on an airplane. Today we just got settled in. But what a swell ride it was. Boy, it has been a long day! Sarah and Margret are still nagging me to stop talking about the camp. I can't wait until tomorrow to start a new day, fresh. -Amelia Mary Earhart

Amelia, Sarah, and I finally arrived at Camp Gray today. I just finished unpacking all of my clothing and personal belongings. Well, I can't wait until Amelia has halted from talking about camp. I can't wait to get a good night's rest, I am tired! -Margret Janet Elleworth

Margret, Amelia, and I arrived at Camp Gray today on an airplane. We just got settled into our cabin. It has been a long day! I cannot wait until tomorrow to see what Camp Gray has in store for us. I just know it will be very boisterous. - Sarah Rose Tibbit

July of 1917

DAY 2

After we woke up this morning, we ate and then hiked the campgrounds of Camp Gray. I was tired before I knew it, and I took a very long nap afterwards. Then we met up with some new friends and some old friends. Camp Gray is just so beautiful. It's the cats meow; I just don't want to leave! -Amelia

In the morning, we woke up and had some ritzy breakfast. We did not know what to do, so we started to take a hike on the grounds of Camp Gray. The scenery is just so spiffy and we met some new friends. But before that, we had some lunch, of which contained a salad, orange juice, and some toast. It was delicious! -Margret

After having a nice filling meal of pancakes and bacon, we thought a nice hike would be a good way to start the day around the grounds of Camp Gray. I love to look at the scenery, and to think about what it will look like in the future. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 3

Today we went canoeing, and we climbed up Mt. Baldhead. I was tired and out of breath before I knew it. It was such a tall dune. Canoeing took up most my arm strength, while climbing took up most my leg strength. But it was really fun to do. Well, I have to go now because I need to eat lunch. -Amelia

It is day three at Camp Gray already! So we went canoeing and then cooled by jumping in the waters of Lake Michigan. After that, we climbed Mt. Baldhead. It is really huge! My, has the time flown! I've got to go eat lunch with Sarah and Amelia now! -Margret

When I awoke in the morning after breakfast, we went canoeing and climbed up Mt. Baldhead. Phew! That took a long time! Mt. Baldhead is very big, but it was the bee's knees. I have to go eat lunch now. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 4

Camp Gray is still so fun, but there is yet so much to do. This afternoon we took a ride on the ferry boat across in to town to go look at some unique shops. While we were there, I got some postcards and some really cool pens that I sent to my family back home. I got a fruity lemony phosphate for the first time. It was very fizzy, but yet so good. After that, we rode the ferry back too.

-Amelia

I didn't think that camp would be this fun. We went for a ride on the ferry boat and went into town to look at some eccentric souvenir

shops. Amelia, Margret, and I also went to get a tart limeade soda at Parrish's; sour but yet scrumptious. We rode the ferry back across the river. What a ride. We almost hit some ducks on the water. -Margret

I love Camp Gray! And I'm not the least bit looking forward to going home. Amelia, Margret, and I decided to ride the ferry today to town. We had to walk in the woods to get there. Afterwards we went to some shops that had dainty souvenirs. I got a small, cherry soda at Parrish's. Yum, was it delicious! -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 5

Wow! Today is day five already! Reverend George Gray is planning some fun activities, but we don't know what they are yet! By the way, Reverend George Gray is the Big Cheese here at Camp Gray, if you know what I mean. -Amelia

Has time flown! It is already day five! Today we didn't have anything to do although I can't really say that, because there is actually plenty to do. Reverend George Gray has some fun activities in store for us.

P.S. Reverend George Gray is founder of Camp Gray. -Margret

I can't believe it is day five already! Reverend George Gray said he has some fun activities we might want to do. I'm looking forward to it so much. It will be so great; I just know it will be. It always is. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 6

I'm so glad I have a journal to record the good times I'm having right now at Camp Gray. I'm oh so glad that I'm at Camp Gray with my best friends ever! For my profession, I think I am going to be a nurse in Toronto, I hope. -Amelia

Right now I'm sitting on a bench painting the magnificent scenery of the woods of Camp Gray. They are so beautiful and the night skies are filled with stars. Amelia and Sarah are inside the cabin doing who knows what. Probably reading out loud together. -Margret

I was just in my cabin talking to Amelia. I recently decided to go lay down on the hammock by our cottage and read my favorite book, Pride and Prejudice, for the fourth time. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 7

Today we walked over to Oval Beach, and had a wonderful picnic, and, not to mention, playing in the splashing waves. Oh, and my next

journal entry will be about some good times I've had and good places I've been! -Amelia

We walked to Oval Beach and boy it is so hot out! After we arrived, it felt EXTREMELY refreshing to play around in the water. We had a lovely picnic on the sand. -Margret

When we went to Oval Beach today, and we all played in the water and sand, burying each other in it. The picnic we had consisted of finger sandwiches, apples, rock candies, and more! Oh boy, doesn't that sound appetizing. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 8

Well, this will be my last journal entry. I have run out of paper, and camp is almost done. I am devastated to leave, but happy to see my friends and family. I decided to train to become a nurse in Toronto, and help my people. Good-bye for now. -Amelia

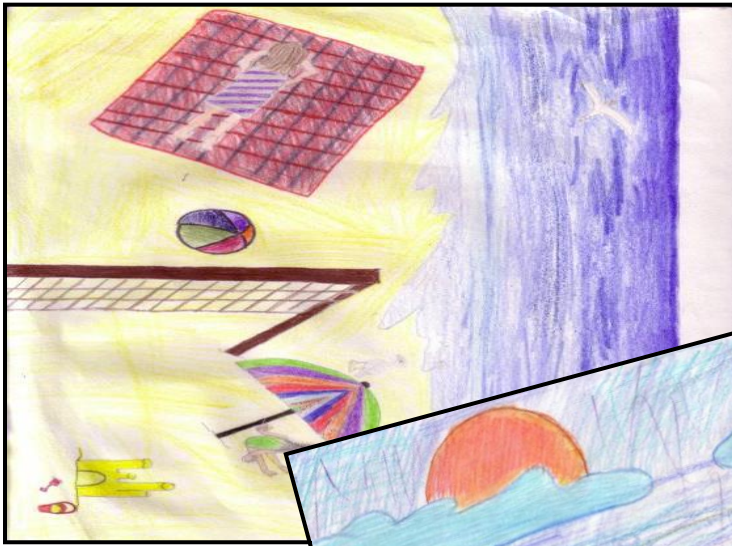
Now that camp is almost over, things are sad around here. Everyone here loves Camp Gray. I've decided to stop writing in my journal pages, but I will always know the good memories in my mind that I've not written down. I must go now. I do need to eat lunch. You know what they say, you can't have fun on an empty stomach. -Margret

I had the best time here at Camp Gray. I loved hanging with all my friends and doing the fun activities they have here. But that is all coming to a stop soon. Camp is almost over, and it will be time to go before we know it. So I have to go and make my times here last for a lifetime. -Sarah

July of 1917

DAY 9

Here are some pictures of our good times and good people!



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THE CHAIN FERRY

Author Bios

Lydia Battjes - I enjoy teaching my chickens new tricks and play with them everyday. Some of there tricks are sledding, swinging, riding in the basket of bicycles, walking on leashes, and jumping off the deck with a safe landing. The chickens that do these tricks are Olivia, Roxy, and Sparkles. Olivia rides in the basket of the bicycle, Roxy goes sledding, and Sparkles jumps off the deck (about 20 feet in the air) and they all go swinging and walking on leashes.



Fya Redinger - Hey guys! My name is Fya, and I enjoy swimming, singing, playing basketball, and watching scary movies. One of my favorite scary movies is The Ring. But my all time favorite scary movie character is FREDDY KRUEGOR!!!!



Amber Rewa - I live on a farm and I live with seven horses, one cow, seven cats, 21 chickens, two dogs, one bird, one snake, one leopard gecko, four fish, two bunnies, and two goats. I enjoy playing with my pets. My favorite thing to do at my house is riding my horses. My favorite subject in school is science. My favorite sports are basketball and softball.



Dedications

Lydia Battjes - I dedicate this book to my chickens Olivia, Sparkels, Roxy, Moshary (Moshary passed away this summer and we didn't eat her, a raccoon got her) and Dominie, my dog.

Fya Redinger - I dedicate this to Stinky, Girly-Girl, Booger, Kita, Keeya, Lucky, Chirp, Ribbit, and Marley.

Amber Rewa - I dedicate this book to my dogs Neka and K.B., my horse Champ, and my bunnies Billy and Snickers.

Journal Accounts

June 9, 1893, 7:00 AM (Helen)

Dear Diary,

This morning I had to wake up at 5: 30 in the morning because I had to get the two children, Rose and Lukis to the ship for our trip to Saugatuck from Wisconsin. It is a beautiful town with lots of trees and gorgeous plants and flowers every were you go. Except for the parts with the big factories, they can be pretty ugly.

Anyway, back to our trip. Our boat is taking off from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It's been one hour and they must have had some problems

because not everyone is on the boat yet. I'm really tired and want to go to my room, but our room is still being worked on and will be for another half an hour. We have a cat named Heleia and a dog named Sona. Heleia is a Siamese cat and Sona is an Irish Settler. We think that Sona means "lucky" in Irish (since she's an Irish Settler.) Well I'm ever so sorry, but I have to go. Bye! -Helen A. Percy

June 12, 1893, 7:00 PM (Lukis)

Dear Diary,

Today, after we arrived here, we went to get a room in a hotel called The Douglas House. We had a really long trip from Wisconsin to Saugatuck. It took a long time to sign in to the Douglas House. After that, we went to our room and then unpacked. It was booooooring. By the way, my birthday is in a few days! Mama says tomorrow we can go take a ride on the Ferry. I'm so excited I can't wait!! Rose and Mama went shopping. Well, I have to go feed the horses, so goodbye journal. -

Lukis M. Percy

June 13, 1893, 8:30 AM (Helen)

Dear Diary,

I'm so tired because I ordered a wake up call at 8:00, so I had time to get ready to go and eat downstairs. I had a little extra time and I decided to go see what was for breakfast. They had a pancake buffet set out with a lot of varieties to choose from, like fresh blueberry and strawberry pancakes.

Today we are going shopping for Lukis and I'm going to buy him some new shoes. Then were going on the Ferry, oh, and did I mention that it's Lukis' birthday soon and he's turning eight. I'm going to get him a red wagon and a wooden toy sailboat. Well, got to go! Bye!

-Helen A. Percy

June 13, 1893 8:00 AM (Rose)

Dear Diary,

I miss Papa so much. If only he could've come with us. Lukis is very excited about his birthday. I am giving him a wooden toy soldier and I think Mama is giving him a wooden sailboat. We snuck a wooden red wagon on the boat in the buggy and under the bed in the hotel room. I think he thinks that it's only a box of clothes for me and Mama. Mama says it's time for pancakes and opening presents. I can't wait to see his face! -Rose Elizabeth Percy

June 13, 1893, 9:00 AM (Lukis)

Dear Diary,

I had pancakes for breakfast, and they were delicious! Today is my birthday! I really hope I get a wooden wagon! Or maybe a wooden sailboat! Or maybe even a wooden soldier!! I miss Daddy. He would have gotten me a super birthday present! Well, Mommy says time to open presents! Wish me luck!
-Lukis M. Percy

June 13, 1893 1:25 PM (Lukis)

Dear Diary,

I'm so happy! I got everything I wanted! I got a wooden sailboat, a wagon, and a bag of toy soldiers! This is the best vacation ever! -
Lukis M. Percy

June 13, 1893 1:30 PM (Rose)

Dear Diary,

Lukis' face was a joy to see when he opened the wagon from Mama and Papa. His expression was a mix between excitement and crying from happiness. Well, whatever it was, it was absolutely, positively happy.

After that, we went on the Ferry several times until Lukis finally got bored. It was a little wooden rowboat that takes passengers from one side of Lake Kalamazoo to the other. An old man with a beard was the one who rowed the oars. He must get tired going across the river all day. Too bad they can't make a bigger boat to take many people across at a time.

After that we went shopping. Mama got Lukis some new dress shoes. Since it's not my birthday, she got me some Good and Plenty's. We found out that Good and Plenty's were just invented this year! I have to go now!

-Rose Elizabeth Percy

June 14, 1893 4:30 PM (Helen)

Dear Diary,

The children and I just got off the Ferry, but we had trouble getting the animals off. We're back at the hotel to pack because we could only stay in Saugatuck for three days. Lukis, Rose, and I are almost done. I'll write to you again when we're back on the ship. Write to you later! Bye.

-Helen A. Percy

June 15, 1896 8:00 PM (Rose)

Dear Diary,

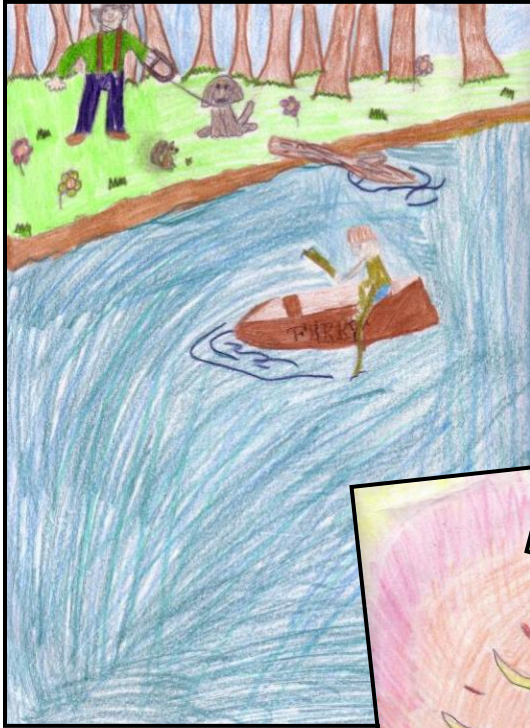
Today I have mixed feelings because we're leaving today. I'm sad, but then again, we get to see Papa, so I'm happy. Right now I'm doing a little bit of journaling and packing at the same time. After we finish packing, we will take the horse and buggy to the dock and then get on the boat to Wisconsin. Papa will pick us up there. I must go now because mama is calling me to the lobby to check out of the hotel.

-Rose Elizabeth Percy

June 19, 1893 9:46 PM (Helen)

Dear Diary,

Sorry I couldn't write back sooner, but the boat was crowded. We're back home and safe and sound. The children and I had a lovely trip. But it is good to be back and see my husband. I have to go cook supper. -Helen A. Percy



BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

**WENDY COLSEN'S SIXTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
CLASS OF 2015**



***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

CORAL GABELS

Author Bios

Rachel Pate - Hi, my name is Rachel Pate and I am eleven years old. I have four dogs - one of them is a standard poodle, two of them are dachshunds, and one of them is a plain old mutt. My hobby is playing with my dogs. My mom owns Dog by Design which is a dog grooming shop. I enjoy going to the Saugatuck/Douglas Library and I really like to swim. My favorite food is chicken nuggets and spaghetti with ketchup. My favorite vacation spot is California. I also enjoy reading. Saugatuck is the BEST place ever!! ☺



Kailey Gehres - Hey, my name is Kailey Gehres and I'm eleven years old. I moved here two years ago from West Olive. I have a bunny named Oreo. I live with my Mom (Sue), Dad (Jeff), and my two brothers Mike and Brad. I love living in Saugatuck! One of the reasons is because in the summer I like to go downtown and fish for catfish. I also play sports for Saugatuck Public Schools. I play softball and basketball. I'm in LOVE with country music. My favorite country singer is Carrie Underwood. My favorite vacation spot is Cancun, Mexico. ☺



Skylar Fucile - Hi, my name is Skylar Fucile and I have lived in Saugatuck all of my life. I am 11 years old. I have one dog named Nugget and a cat named Mickie. My favorite singer is Kenny Chesney and I also love country music. My favorite vacation spot is Key West, Florida. I really enjoy my school (Saugatuck Public Schools) because it is such a small school. I am very involved in community activities. I live at home with my mom Cathy and my dad Joe. I enjoy living in Saugatuck mainly in the summer because of tourists. Just think, people want to come to my town and experience what I do every day! I feel so lucky to live on Saugatuck! ☺



Dedications

Rachel Pate - I dedicate this project to my dog Dumar because he has a special place in my heart.

Kailey Gehres - I dedicate this project to my family - my mom, dad, Mike, Brad and my bunny Oreo because I love them all to death.

Skylar Fucile - I dedicate this project to my family because they are the best family ever!

Journal Accounts

June 18, 1962, Friday

We all are packing (Susan, Jillian, and, Louise) for our girls' summer vacation. This year for our summer trip we are going to Saugatuck, Michigan on a ship. Leaving from Nassau, Bahamas to go to Saugatuck, Michigan. Jillian told us to pack tank tops and flip flops. We will all be packing in our different colored suitcases. Jillian's suitcase is pink, Louise's is blue, and, Susan's is purple.

We took a break from packing and went out for lunch and discussed our trip. We had so many brochures.

Last year we went to Dallas, Texas. We went to a rodeo and we rode a mechanical bull. Boy! Was that a blast!!

Anyway, to get back on topic, our ship leaves at 5:11a.m., so we are going to have to go to bed early and we are all spending the night at Susan's house. We are so excited!!

June 19 1962, Saturday, Early Morning

We just woke up and are waiting for Susan to finish straightening her hair. Golly gee, she takes a long time getting ready in the bathroom!

As we loaded up the suitcases in the station wagon, we found out that Louise is driving! Oh, no!!! She doesn't know how to drive very well! Please pray for us. Thank goodness it only takes us about 15 minutes to drive to the dock.

June 19, 1962, Saturday Afternoon

We are waiting for the ship. We are on the dock with all of our luggage right now! All of us are VERY tired because we stayed up all night. We were so excited that we couldn't fall asleep! The ship should be here in about 30 minutes or so.

Oh, we hear its blowing horn right now! Here it comes! Louise is so excited she's jumping up and down. Jillian was so smart she got us first class ticket! Boy, is she a smart one!!!

June 20, 1962, Sunday Afternoon

Ugh, this is a LONG boat ride! We are getting so hungry we can smell that the cooks are cooking some grilled cheese!

The food is finally here. The stewards served us grilled cheese and Shirley Temples. Yummy

All these little kids put on a show for us and the sung songs to us! They were good and it looked like they practiced hard! That was some entertainment for the day.

June 23, 1962, Wednesday, Early Morning

We are still on the boat. We are entering the Ohio River Valley. We are wide awake because some little kids are crying and having hissy fits, but that's all right because the Ohio River is so beautiful!

In a few hours we will be eating breakfast. I wonder what they will be making us?

Here our breakfast comes now! It is now 7:35 and I think they are serving us some eggs and bacon. Oh, my golly, this is good eating.

June 24, 1962, Thursday, Afternoon

We are eating lunch on the ship right now. They served us a foot long hot dog and some potato chips. The drink was water.

We are going to get to Saugatuck, Michigan approximately at 4:00 am. We can't wait!

After lunch, we saw a dog on the loose. Since no one claimed him, we took him and kept him as a pet. He was a beagle we named him Bagel the beagle.

June 25, 1962, Friday, Morning

We finally arrived in Saugatuck, Michigan! Louise was jumping and screaming because we finally arrived. Jillian told Louise to cool her jets!

We are getting off the ship right now. We are one of the first ones to get off of the ship because Jillian got us first class seats. Oh the weather sure is beautiful! The thermometer on the ship says its 76 degrees!

June 26, 1962, Early, Saturday Morning

Good morning, beautiful Saugatuck!! Last night we stayed at an inn. Today is a shopping day!!!! We got a Billy Bob bargain on some fancy shirts. They only cost \$.50 to a \$1.00. Boy oh boy, was that a bargain!!! We each bought three shirts.

Susan found an old country store where we bought fruit juice, honey, home-style jellies, maple fudge candies, and maple syrup. That sure is good eatin'! The owners were Erv Kasten and Fred Davis. They sure were nice!

June 26, 1962, Late Afternoon

We went to Coral Gables for lunch. The menu was superior. Louise had a chicken dish, Jillian had pizza, and Susann had a juicy steak. We loved the Coral Gables so much that we wanted to learn more about the Coral Gables.

Here are some interesting facts that we found.

- The Coral Gables was built in 1905.
- Their best selling item is pizza.
- They are considered a fancy restaurant.
 - They have a beer cellar.
 - They are closed for only one month in the winter.

- People come from all over the world to experience it.

June 27, 1962, Early Sunday Morning

Louise wanted to go waterskiing. We went to Gleason's Marina. Water skiing sure was a BLAST.

July 1, 1962, Thursday, Early Morning

Louise was so delighted with the Coral Gables that she asked this morning if we can go back for dinner and, of course, we all said yes!

July 1, 1962, Thursday, Late Night

We had a wonderful dinner at the Coral Gables and now we are at the Soda Fountain where Louise had a strawberry malt, Jillian had a fruit smoothie, and Susann had a double chocolate malt.

July 4, 1962, Sunday, Late Morning

It is the Fourth of July!!!!!! Today we are going to go to the Fourth of July parade. They are going to be throwing beads and candy out to us, but tonight will be even more fun because they are having fireworks down by the Coral Gables. We are so excited!!!

We will have to leave in two days to go back to our roots, which is Nassau, Bahamas. We haven't seen our families in a few weeks. We miss them so much!

July 4, 1962, Sunday Afternoon

We went shopping and we bought ourselves Fourth of July clothes and jewelry. We look very sharp.

July 4, 1962, Sunday Night

We got loads of candy and bags full of cheap necklaces at the parade. Boy, did we have a grand time! Tomorrow we are going to get ready to pack and then we are leaving on the 6th. Not that we don't want to, but we have to go back to Bahamas and see our lovely families.

July 5, 1962, Monday, Late Morning

We just got back from breakfast. We are packing right now. We all think it's very sad because this was a fun girls' trip, and we sure will always and never forget this wonderful trip. We think we will end up coming back next year! Our favorite part was Coral Gables. They had the best food ever.

July 6, 1962, Early Morning

We are heading out on the ship right now. We said all of our farewells to all of our new friends and everything. WE ALL LOVED THIS TRIP!



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FISH TOWN

Author Bios

Jacob Pettinga - Hi, my name is Jacob Pettinga. I am 11 years old. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. In the summer I like to play outside, go in the woods, and go fishing. My favorite sport is baseball. My birthday is on April 27.



Barbara Rasmussen - Hi, my name is Barbara Rasmussen. I am 11 years old. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. In the summer I like to swim, kick my soccer ball in our field, and run around our trail. My favorite animals are wolf pups, because they are just too cute! My favorite sport is soccer. My birthday is July 22.



Isabelle Van Wieren - Hi, my name is Isabelle Van Wieren. I am 12 years old. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. In the summer I like to go on bike rides with my family, swim in my pool, and sit by the campfire. My favorite animals are monkeys. My favorite sport is volleyball. My birthday is December 3.



Sophia Maicki - Hi, my name is Sophia Maicki. I am 11 years old. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. In the summer I like to swim, sketch, and paint. My favorite animal is a chinchilla. My favorite sport is basketball. My birthday is March 13.



Dedications

Jacob Pettinga - I am dedicating this to Mr. Shmiechen because he is in charge of the whole thing.

Barbara Rasmussen - I am dedicating this to my dad because he took me fishing for my birthday and it was REALLY fun.

Isabelle Van Wieren - I am dedicating this to my grandpa and his buddy Pam because they always bring me fishing and I enjoy it very much.

Sophia Maicki - I am dedicating this to my dad because he takes me on hikes on the Fish Town Trail.

Journal Accounts

July 21, 1901 (Barbara)

Dear Journal,

Today I arrived in Saugatuck at 3:00 p.m. I arrived in a car and I came from Detroit. I am going to see as many sites as possible and I hope that I will be able to see all of them today without stopping. Well, I have to go touring now. Bye, Journal.

July 21, 1901 (Jacob)

Dear Journal,

Today I arrived in Saugatuck at 9:00 p.m. I arrived in a bus and I came from Lansing. I am here to go fishing on Lake Michigan. I am really excited! I want to catch a Big Mouth Bass. But first I have to buy a fishing net, fishing pole, and fishing bait. Bye for now.

July 21, 1901 (Sophia)

Dear Journal,

Today I arrived in Saugatuck from Grand Rapids. I met a girl and she said that she was from Chicago. The girl's name was Issy. I arrived at 9:45 p.m. in Saugatuck. The sky was a dark gray and it was raining a lot. The thunder and rain made it even harder to keep my eyes open. So I fell asleep.

When I arrived, I slipped and I dropped most of my luggage. Dad would be mad because I ruined my new dress. My mom had handmade that dress and it is very comfortable. I know he would get mad at me because he misses my mom very much.

After I checked into my hotel that I would be staying at, I went to the Palace Market and got a choice cut steak. Mmmmm!

July 21, 1901 (Issy)

Dear Journal,

Today I arrived in Saugatuck at 11:00 at night on a boat. I wanted to come here with my friend Keyana, but she got sick and couldn't come. The water looked beautiful when I got here. Well, I have to go get some sleep. I am very tired, but I believe I will get over it. Good night.

July 22, 1901 (Barbara)

Dear Journal,

Today is the second day that I have been touring in Saugatuck. Can you guess what else today is? Today is also my birthday, although nobody will be wishing me happy birthday because I am away from everybody that I know.

I will continue my touring and I will continue to look at all the rest of the sites and I will also be going fishing. Well, that's all for now I have to go fishing.

Later that same day...

Like I said, I went fishing. I caught a bunch of fish. They weren't very big though, so I had to let them all go again. Guess what else I caught? I caught one of the rarest fish called a Muskie. It is VERY rare. This was the only fish that I kept. Well, I have to go and I will see you later.

July 23, 1901 (Jacob)

Dear Journal,

Guess what? I have been looking at getting a cabin in Fish Town. It must be small and cozy. Fish Town is a small town near the river for fisherman like me to catch dinner without the possibility of getting stuck in the traffic on the way back into town.

Today the guy that was selling the house came up to me and said that the house was only \$98. I'd have to go to the general hardware to get pots and pans.

While I was carrying the pots and pans from the general hardware, I was tripped in front of a young girl about my age. I fell in the river. She just sat there laughing, but then offered to help and fell in the river too.

July 23, 1901 (Sophia)

Dear Journal,

Today I went to Fish Town. I was doing all sorts of things there. Fish Town is a little fisherman colony. On my way back to the boat, I met a young man about my age. He was carrying pots and pans and he tripped on a rock. I was laughing so hard that I was crying, and then I got serious and helped him up. I told the man that I was sorry for laughing and asked him his name he said that his name was Jacob. Then I slipped on the water and fell in too. Another girl came by to help and also fell in because we were laughing so much. Then this lady named Barbara helped me up and laughed at us. We all started laughing and got to know each other. What a funny day. Well, I have to go. Bye.

July 23, 1901 (Issy)

Dear Journal,

Today I went to go fishing and saw people sitting in the water with pots and pans floating all over. It was a weird sight to see, so I went and asked to see if they needed any help. I helped get all the pots and pans and people out of the water and asked everyone if they were all right. They were all fine and then we all got to know each other a little better I learned everyone's name. The clumsy boy's name was Jacob, the first girl that fell in with the boy name was Sophia, and the last girl that fell in the water was named Barbara.

We all decided to go to dinner that evening. We all got along at the restaurant and talked about our lives. We all had to leave the next day, but decided that we would meet next year at Fish Town to spend a week together laughing and fishing. What a great trip! See you next year.



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Hotel Butler My 1910 Journal

Author Bios

Taylor Slais - Hi, I'm Taylor and I live in Fennville. My hobbies include dancing, reading, writing, and being with friends.

Kishan Patel - My name is Kishan and I am from Saugatuck. I like to cook, play on the computer, and play with my friends.

Caroline Finn - I am Caroline Finn. I live in Holland. I love play outside, do sports (soccer, basketball, and volleyball), and I like play with my friends. I have lots of fun.

Michaela Sweigart - My name is Michaela and I live in Saugatuck. I like to swim, watch TV, and play with my neighbors.

Danielle DeMond - Hi, my name is Danielle. I live in Fennville with my dad, step-mom, step-sister, and little brother. Sometimes I'm at my mom's with my mom and other little brother. I like to play softball and basketball. I also like to play Sims 2 on the computer.



Dedications

We dedicate this project to our wonderful language arts teacher, Mrs. Colsen, because she helped us learn and make our project the best it can be. She is the bomb!

Journal Accounts

May 19, 1910

Thursday

My name is Elizabeth McFean. I am 13, and I live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Today I found out that we are going on a vacation to a quaint little lakeside village named Saugatuck! We are going to take the Interurban trestle from Grand Rapids on May 29. It takes nearly an hour and a half to get there. That's the only bad part. We don't know how many people are going to be on that day, so it could be crowded on the little train.

May 29, 1910

Sunday

Today was the day we headed to Saugatuck. We skipped church and got on the trestle at 8 o'clock at night, and we very nearly missed the

trestle all together. I was surprised it was so small. It was a long ride and there was nothing to do.

Once we got off, my dad checked us into the Hotel Butler. It was really late, but before I went to bed, I went outside and played with my younger sister May Lee. 'Tis the time the sun is setting, so I must retire.

June 1, 1910

Wednesday

Ever since we got here, we have been outside and doing family things. Today May Lee and I were walking down the street and we ran into Captain George Phelps, the owner of the Hotel Butler. He had just come from his ship. We told him we much loved the Hotel and we asked him if he knew any about the history of the hotel.

The Captain said he did. He said it was, just a few years ago, a steam powered grist mill. He said that when he bought it, they moved the milling materials to a city to the north named Holland. We talked to him a bit longer then left.

I thought it was really interesting when he said a grist mill could be transformed into such a beautiful hotel. It wouldn't do to tell mother.

June 5, 1910

Sunday

Today the family (after church, of course) went to the beach and it was absolutely splendid. First, we went to swim in the water and I got to try my new bathing wear. It was wool and itchy. The water was freezing, so we spent most all of our time on the shore playing in the sand. It was a beautiful day. After that we went for a walk around the beach. We were all soaked to the bones, but after we went on our walk, we were all dry. Then we had dinner at the Hotel Butler - the lowest floor is a restaurant. The food was quite lovely.

June 7, 1910

Tuesday

Today my family and I went shopping and we went to the fanciest place in town called L. S. Dickinson & Son. I bought something called a Pringree. They are the latest trend. I also got some dresses any my dad went away to a shop that sold tobacco. He also bought himself a suit for \$9.99. I thought it was handsome on him. It looked like it was meant for him.

June 8, 1910

Wednesday

On Monday we went boating on the Kalamazoo River. We had lots of fun and we all got soaking wet. It was a bright summer day, but the river was quite chilly. The boat we took was barely big enough to hold four people. May Lee and I were sitting in the boat and looking at the

different buildings. We found that the Hotel Butler looks very different from the back than from the front. Father was the one rowing the boat.

After spending hours looking at the different places, we went onto Lake Michigan. The lake was beautiful. We went back in the river and as we were getting on the pier, May Lee fell into the river. She was sopping wet and we had to hurry in to get her warm. It was a very pleasant day, though Mary Lee may not think so!

June 11, 1910

Saturday

Today the sky was grey, and it was wet and cold. The rain was pouring hard outside and we had to stay inside, so we wouldn't catch cold. May Lee and I have been running around the hotel to see what we could discover. May Lee found an old bottle in a room that no one was in.

Mother said she must go out and get a few groceries and asked if we would be all right alone for a few minutes. Of course we said yes, glad for any chance to explore unperturbed. It was most exciting, exploring with May Lee. We found an old child's rocking chair in a dusty old room, seemingly unused.

Soon after our intriguing find, Mother returned with a surprise. The surprise was two exquisitely made dresses with lace and frills each! Mine was lavender and maroon, and May Lee's was periwinkle and forest green. They were perfect for us!

Later, May Lee was frightened and concerned over the little child's rocking chair. She thought it could belong to a ghost child. When I told father, he said that said that proposition was impossible and that we should wash up and go to bed.

At midnight, I slunk out of our bedroom and down the staircase to the rocking chair room. To my surprise, Captain Phelps was sitting in the rocking chair! I gave a startled gasp and he turned around. Perhaps as startled from me as I was of him. He quickly composed himself.

I had been intrigued since he first told me of the Hotel's past. I wanted more information to ponder. I asked him for more information and he told me all I wanted to know. By the time I left, it was two-o'clock and I had to run to get to bed for father woke up at four thirty.

June 13, 1910

Monday

On this day, 'tis quite sunny, as though the sun were trying to dry the rain as fast as it could for us. Mother let May Lee and I play outside. 'Twas so nice out that we quite forgot ourselves and started to run and fell and muddied our dresses! Oh no! (Thank goodness we did not wear our new splendor!)

Mother got herself in quite a tiff, and we got a scolding we will not soon forget. May Lee and I were sent to bed quite without supper. I suppose we deserved it for the way we acted. Even so, I won't regret it.

Playing with May Lee is always fun. The Hotel Butler, with its lovely rooms, is a nice place to be without supper.

June 21, 1910

Tuesday Morning

After a splendid breakfast, we gathered our bathing wear and began the walk toward the water taxi to get to the beach. Once there we changed and started to the water. The waves were over my head and far above May Lee's, who is tall for her age. It depended on the wave, but sometimes we went under and sometimes we jumped over. More often than not, we went under.

Later in the afternoon, we went to the local frozen custard shop and Mother bought us some delicious custard. I cannot describe the taste, but 'tis divine. Then I went with May Lee, Mother and Father to the trinket shop and bought with my own earnings, porcelain figurine depicting a child surrounded by waves. May Lee, with her pocket money, bought a postcard of the Hotel Butler to remember the fun times.

Then we began the walk to the Butler to rest before catching the late night trestle back to Grand Rapids.

June 21, 1910

Tuesday Night

Mother just woke me to start packing for the trip home. May Lee didn't like the idea of getting up very late to leave. The only way to get her up is for Mother to make her a bowl of Post Toasties.

After packing, we began to walk to the Interurban trestle. I was very tired and found it hard to walk without almost falling over. Just as we were leaving the beautiful Hotel Butler May Lee shouted out, 'Good bye Saugatuck, we'll miss you!' with all the energy she had left.

When we got on the trestle, May Lee fell fast asleep to the rickety sound of the old car right in Mother's lap, while I daydreamed about going to the beautiful Saugatuck, Michigan again.

**Thank You!
We Hope You
Enjoyed Reading
This!**



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THE INTERURBAN

Author Bios

Marena Tedaldi - Hi, I'm Marena. I am 11 years old and I have lived in Saugatuck-Douglas area for my whole life. I attend Saugatuck Middle School. In these journal accounts, I am an 18-year-old girl named Cecilia.



Madison Walston - Hi, I'm Madison (Maddi for short) and I live in Saugatuck Michigan. I go to Saugatuck Middle School. I have lived here for about ten years. In these journal accounts, I am a 17-year-old girl named Lily.



Dedications

Marena Tedaldi - I dedicate this to my dogs Ranger and Sasha.

Madison Walston - I dedicate this to my puppy Marley.

Journal Accounts

June 17, 1942 (Lily)

Today Cecilia and I said our farewells to our mother and brothers at the Interurban stop in Chicago. Father couldn't come because he was at war. Once we got on the train and pulled out, we were ready for an adventure in Saugatuck, Michigan. Mama packed us some snacks for our lunch. We ate all of it and silently thanked our mama as though she could hear us.

It was quite a long train ride. When we got there, we grabbed our luggage and went to check in at the Hotel Casablanca. Once we settled into our room, we wrote back home to tell mama and the boys that we got here safely.

We unpacked and got out our Saugatuck directory of things to do. We ran our fingers down the pages and our fingers stopped on the words *The Soda Fountain*. We slipped on our sandals and were out the door.

Once we got to the Soda Fountain, it was already six o'clock. Cecilia ordered a root beer float with whipped cream and I ordered a Banana Split. They were delicious! Cecilia let me try a little bit of hers too. We gave the man our money, finished our desserts, and began to walk around the town.

There was a small warehouse that sold tools and much more and a few stores that sold some clothing. We saw a river and a few boats too. After our small walk, we headed back to the Casablanca. And now, it is time for bed. -Lily

June 18, 1942 (Cecilia)

Today we got up and got on the Interurban and headed to Holland to get some breakfast. We found a restaurant called Russ'. They had curbside service and jukeboxes at the tables! The food was delicious! We then went shopping in Holland and got some clothes. We both got a white blouse and a red skirt with yellow flowers.

Later we rode back to Saugatuck on the Interurban. We went back to our hotel, and got out the directory. We decided to go to the beach. We put on our swimsuits and our sun hats. We grabbed our sandals, walked to the Ferry, rode it across the river, and walked to the beach. While we were there we got sandwiches and some soda at the Beach House. We swam and met locals. They suggested going to the Big Pavilion for the summer grand opening.

On our way back to the hotel, we went back to the soda fountain for a single scoop of vanilla ice cream and ate it on the way back to the hotel.

-Cecilia

June 19, 1942 (Lily)

Today Cecilia and I headed out for a couple games of golf for 50 cents at the Saugatuck Golf Course. I won the first game and Cecilia won the second. Afterwards, we went to the drug store for icy cold water. It was very hot outside and we needed a good cool down. But it wasn't as bad as Chicago in the summer.

Mama wrote us a letter to see how we were doing. We wrote back and told her we were having the time of a lifetime in Saugatuck.

After that, we went out for lunch. We did some more shopping in Saugatuck. We didn't get anything, but we saw a lot of things downtown. We shopped until dinner, and then we went to a hot dog stand along the street and ate it on our way back to the hotel. Then we got on our pajamas and got in the small bed. -Lily

June 20, 1942 (Cecilia)

Today we got hungry and went to get some food; we got Kelloggs' Corn Flakes and Kool Aid, our favorites. We went back to the hotel and ate our Corn Flakes without our milk. Yummy! We ate while we read *The Commercial Record*, we planned out some of our weekend, and on the 23rd, we would hop on the Interurban and go see *My Little Chickadee* in Fennville. On the 21st we would go to the Sunlite Bake Shop, and on the 22nd we were going to the Pavilion for their grand summer season opening. We are very excited for our big week.

We went to the beach and got hot dogs at the Root Beer Barrel. We tanned out in the sun and talked to some of the other people there. After the fun-filled day we decided to go back to the hotel. Of course, we first went to the drug store. We got there three minutes before they closed.

We saw our favorite game for sale there and bought it! Kate Smith's own game! It shows the spirit of America and our favorite radio host. We played the game for hours before we decided it was time to go to bed. If

Mama found out we stayed up this late she would throw a fit! It was almost three hours after our regular bedtime! -Cecilia

June 21, 1942 (Lily)

We woke up this morning quite late. That, we don't usually do. Once we got up, we ate some more Corn Flakes! YUM! Afterwards we walked along the river before anyone was there and then headed off to the Sunlite Bake Shop for some cookies and milk. It was their grand opening, so we got a free sample cookie.

After that, we got on the Interurban and went to Fennville for the movie *21 Days Together* with Laurence Oliver and Vivien Liegh. It was such a good movie! Cecilia didn't like it that much, but truth be told, I would go back and see it ten times more.

When we got back, we went to dinner at Coral Gables. They told us tomorrow to go to the Big Pavilion for the grand opening. Bill Young would be there to play his music for us to dance to. After dinner we were so worn out that we went back to the hotel and slept. -Lily

June 22, 1942 (Cecilia)

We woke up this morning and finished off our Corn Flakes and then we walked along the edge of the river and let the cold water rush up on our feet. Then we went shopping because we had to get something for Mama and our brothers Will and Timmy. We got mama a small cup that she could put her morning tea in, we got Timmy a small teddy bear that was wearing a small top hat that said Saugatuck Michigan, and we got Will a book about Saugatuck.

After shopping, we went back to Coral Gables for some chicken and then we went to the Big Pavilion's Grand Summer Season Opening and danced to Bill Young's music. He was very good and we had hot dogs after a little dancing. Then we went back to the hotel and slept. - Cecilia

June 23, 1942 (Lily)

This morning we went to the Sunlit Bake Shop for some doughnuts and then we went back to the Fennville Theater to see *My Little Chickadee*. It was very good; with Mae West and W. C. Fields too! They were very good! I didn't like it as much as *21 Days Together*, but Cecilia sure did. We got popcorn during the movie.

Afterwards we ate at a hot dog stand in Fennville and ate them on the Interurban ride back to the hotel. We weren't hungry for lunch, so we walked around town to find something for ourselves, so Cecilia and I both got Teddy bears like Timmy's. Later we went out for dinner at Coral Gables, and then treated ourselves to a little treat at the soda fountain; root beer floats for the both of us.

Then we went back to the Hotel Casablanca and walked around their yard and talked about how beautiful Saugatuck and Douglas were. We watched the sunset and went inside to get a good night sleep. -Lily

June 24, 1942 (Lily and Cecilia)

Today we got up quickly to get our time in at the beach. We got on our suits and headed out with towels. We ran across Saugatuck so quickly that others were looking at us thinking, "Where are they going? Are those kids crazy?!" and mothers were saying, "Where are those girls' shoes?"

Once we got to the beach, we threw our towels down and hopped in the water. We floated around for a couple of hours watching the beach fill up, and then we looked at the clock and decided it was time to go. We had to take the Interurban back home to Chicago.

We walked home, but we were in no hurry to leave Saugatuck. We got to the hotel, packed our bags, and walked out to the Interurban stop. We said that we would definitely come back to Saugatuck, we were so lucky! We were only teenage girls and we came all the way to Saugatuck all by ourselves, we couldn't complain. We saw the train pull up, handed the man our luggage, we climbed up the stairs to the train, and we looked back at Saugatuck. A tear ran down our cheeks, but we said we would come back soon. We got in our seats as the train pulled away.

-Lily and Cecilia



BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

**WENDY COLSEN'S SIXTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
CLASS OF 2015**



***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

ISLAND QUEEN

Author Bios

Ashton Greene - Hi, I'm Ashton Greene. I'm 11 years old and I live in Saugatuck! I love sports and my favorites are soccer, volleyball, and golf. I have a mom, dad, and younger sister. I also have a dog named Berkley and a fish. I hope you really enjoy this project!



Danielle Schlock - Hi! I'm Danielle Schlock. I love to collect rocks, and I love kitty cats because they are so cute and cuddly. When my family goes camping I like to go put-put golfing. I'm 12 years old, and my birthday is October 16, 1996.



Katie Slayer - Hi! I'm Katie Slayer, I love animals and children! Someday I would like to become a vet and a teacher. I'm 12 years old and my birthday is December 12. Some sports that I do are basketball, softball, volleyball, and golf. I'm thinking of going to Michigan State when I grow up. I love camping in tents with my dad and dog Diesel. I hope you enjoy our project!!!



Sydney Vernier - Hi! My name is Sydney! I love the summer and catching frogs and toads. My birthday is July 21. I have good grades and I was born in Kalamazoo. I have two sisters and a dog named Didgeridoo. I like golfing and having sleepovers. I have lots of friends of all different ages and heights. I had fun making this, and I hope you enjoy it.



Dedications

Ashton Greene - I dedicate this project to everyone in my family! We always have fun in Saugatuck and Douglas! They are always there for me! I love when they visit!

Danielle Schlock - I dedicate this to Marilyn Starring and her dog Curly because every year she lets my mom's side of the family have a reunion at the Star of Saugatuck and it's fun to ride. I also dedicate this to my family because they always put a smile on my face!

Katie Slayer - I dedicate this to my family because I love them! They RULE!

Sydney Vernier - I dedicate this to my dad and Aunt Shirley for keeping my boat afloat.

Journal Accounts

June 25, 1977 (Elisha)

We have just arrived in Saugatuck. There are lots of birds and beautiful scenery including frogs hopping, kids playing, and beautiful lakes. I am so glad we moved here. Alexandra (Alex for short), Elisabeth, Bailey and I (Elisha) are moving here and we have just moved into a house we are renting. The house is nice. Today is Bailey's birthday, and at noon we are going to quit unpacking for the day and celebrate. We are going to get down! -
Elisha

July 2, 1977 (Bailey)

This is so nifty! All we get to do today is to unpack. The three roommates I live with are Elisha, Alex, and Elisabeth. Since I live with all these people, there was a lot of unpacking to do! All of my roommates are very fun to be with! We have really settled into our home! I love the house! It's on the Kalamazoo River. This is a great experience! -Bailey

July 15, 1977 (Elisabeth)

Today is a very special day!! The Island Queen was rebuilt! We are all so excited. It seems everyone is there and wants to get a ride! I feel so packed in the crowd. I could be a sardine! We just got on and everyone is excited, especially Alex! She seems so excited that she could jump off the top of the railing into the water! And guess what, she did! Everyone was shocked!! They had to throw a life preserver out to her. She got out of the water eventually. That was the end of a long day. -Elisabeth

July 21, 1977 (Alex)

We are having so much fun here! But today is very special. It's Elisha's birthday and we are taking a break from all the work and unpacking to do. We are going to do all sorts of activities and to explore the town. We went to Oval Beach and saw the most beautiful scenery ever! There were tons of seagulls! We also went to the soda lounge. That was very fun also! I think that we are getting a better idea about what kind of town Saugatuck is! We also went on a shopping trip! Elisha found a Peggy. One of the coolest things ever! Well, we think so. A Peggy is a tin can and has a wooden peg in the middle; it holds your already chewed gum. So you can throw all of your used gum away at once! This will be one of my favorite memories about Saugatuck. -Alex

August 7, 1977 (Bailey)

We are getting jobs today! We are all getting different jobs. I'm going to be a lifeguard, Alex is going to work at an ice cream shop, and Elisha and Elisabeth are going to work as waitresses. All of our nifty jobs are going to pay for our house and give us life experiences. I think it will be very fun. We all get to work at places that we love! I love the beach because you can feel the wind in your face and the smell of the fresh water is amazing. The ice cream shop is the perfect place for Alex; she loves sweets. For the girls that are waitresses,

they have great balance. We will earn lots of money. We would like to buy a Bush Car. It costs \$675.00. It would be great because we can get around faster. -Bailey

August 13, 1977 (Elisha)

We get to meet very special people today - the captains of the Island Queen! It is going to be very exciting! We are meeting Bob Heath, Henry Gleason, and Bruce Starring. They all seem like very nice and bright people. They have many stories to tell about what happened to the Island Queen. When we started talking to them, they said that we could see what the real workers did on the Island Queen. So they let us kick the wheel when it got stuck and steer. We all had a chance to do it. It was a very fun time. This is a great day! -Elisha

August 21, 1977 (Elisabeth)

Today all of our parents are coming to visit! We are all very excited and nervous! We get to show our parents our home town and our new house. We are planning to take them to the Island Queen and other places. Hopefully Alex's parents don't jump off like Alex once did! They are all very excited to be in Saugatuck!

Later that day...

The Island Queen was probably one of their favorite things about Saugatuck. It sure is one of ours! We also showed our parents Oval Beach. We had so much fun! The only thing that was bad about the trip to the beach was the smell of dead fish! It was the nastiest things we have ever smelled! After a few hours our parents went home. We were sad to see them go, but we will always remember their first trip to Saugatuck. -Elisabeth

September 5, 1977 (Alex)

The time has gone so fast being here in Saugatuck! We have had so much fun, we don't know where the time went! This life in Saugatuck is great! We haven't yet experienced winter in Saugatuck, but we are ready for it! I think it will be great to see what happens in the winter. But I'm getting off the topic! I think that we will always remember Saugatuck when we get older; we may never leave! All of the crazy things we have done are a great memory. My favorite is when I jumped off the Island Queen! School is staring soon and we are saying good-bye to summer, and hello to the fall. This has been a great, and probably the best summer ever! -Alex



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KEEWATIN

Authors Bios

Analise Avalos - I'm 11 years old and I love sports.

Devon Castillo - Hello, I'm 12 years old and my favorite sports are basketball, softball, volleyball, and football.

Veronica Troyer - I'm 12 years old and my favorite animals are cats.

Elsie Hayden - I'm 11 years old and I LOVE the Legend of Zelda.



Dedications

Analise Avalos - I'm dedicating this to my cousins Yazmine, Karter, and Ayden.

Devon Castillo - I dedicate this to my cousin Kee Kee who died in a car accident.

Veronica Troyer - I'm dedicating this to my cat Sony for all the times she sat on my lap and was a good friend.

Elsie Hayden - I'm dedicating this to my friend Maggie Perkins because she moved and she loves Saugatuck history.

Characters:

Devon Castillo as Captain Alexander Campbell

Elsie Hayden as Sam

Veronica Troyer as Lora

Analise Avalos as Elizabeth

Journal Accounts

June 27, 1967

I, Captain Alexander Campbell (people call me Captain A. Campbell), met three kids who where chasin' me boat. These three kids' names were Elizabeth, Lora, and Sam. They came up to me today and asked me about the history of the Keewatin. It is good to feel me heart all warm inside to see youngsters taking a part in the history of me old boat (about 50 years old to be exact).

June 27, 1967

Elizabeth, Sam, and I had just eaten at the Root Beer Barrel (They have good foot long hotdogs.) and took a walk around the river when Sam noticed the very large boat. So we walked over. While walking over there we noticed a really old man with a big hat on. So we asked about

the big boat. Then he said it was called the Keewatin and it was a very important piece of his life. H then said something about coming again tomorrow, but I don't know exactly what he said because I was staring at the wasp on his hat.

June 27, 1967

After meeting the captain of the Keewatin, Lora, Sam, and I walked home and played kick-the-can and hacky sack. It was so much fun. Then it was 8:00 and we all had to go home.

June 27, 1967

Today we met an old coot. He started blabbing on about some Keewatin thing while I was starving. We left to get more hotdogs, so we're seeing him again tomorrow. Afterwards we got bored and played kick-the-can. I accidentally kicked the can and hit some person and they turned and started screaming unmentionables at me!

June 30, 1967

The kids are back and asking me once more for me to tell them about the Keewatin. I may not have a long time left for me to be working on the boat, so I might as well tell them all about it before I retire. I began my story as "Sweat dripping from the faces of hard working people trying to get this here lovely boat done in time. Black smoke coming from the factories. As the day ends the workers begin to pack their stuff. Finally on July 6, 1907, the S.S. Keewatin was launched into the River Clyde. Then, in September 14, 1907, in Scotland, the 350 ft. by 43 ft. and 8 in., weighing over 5 thousand tons with top speed of 16 knots, the Keewatin separated. The gigantic boat sailed across the Atlantic Ocean, up the St. Lawrence River.

And to...to..." Those kids had to interrupt me right about here asking questions like, "Did it ever catch on fire? Did people fall off the sides of the boat?" And the weirdest question they asked was, "Were there any magical creatures or any ghost on this boat?" Sam asked this one. I think there is something wrong with her ol' brain.

June 30, 1967

It was getting late, so we had to go home. Sam, Lora, and I left and will come back tomorrow, so he could tell us more about the S.S. Keewatin. We loved learning about the big boat.

June 30, 1967

All right, so we were planning on what to do today and everyone had Sam beat two to one. And the only reason is she wanted to get some food. Again. Eventually we persuaded her to come with us to go ask the captain some questions. But, as everyone could have guessed, as soon as we got there, she started quietly complaining about being hungry.

While there, we asked the guy a lot of questions (while ignoring Sam's constant complaining) such as, "Did people ever fall off the edge of the ship?" But at that one, he just stood there pondering about how to

answer that question. He said he didn't know. Oh well... I don't believe him though.

June 30, 1967

The ol' coot was telling us about the Keewatin. I asked many questions. I also asked when we were going to get some food.

July 4, 1967

The kids haven't been back for while and unlike meself, I am getting worried like maybe something happened to those poor kids.

Later in the day...

It has been three hours since the last time I have written and the kids finally came back. Today I answered their questions. The boat never caught on fire. Wait, I think it did in the kitchen, but other than that, nope. No one ever fell off. Sometimes we had to throw off some fish, well actually, dead fish because we ate fish on t'is boat. And no, there were no darn magical creatures, but there was a ghost, some would say, but others would say she is just a myth. I never really got a chance to tell if she was a ghost or not.

July 4, 1967

After Captain Alexander told us the answers to the questions we went to Oval Beach, we swam for two hours.

July 4, 1967

So the captain guy was giving us answers, but I'm positive Sam wasn't paying attention to half the answers he gave. It figures. Suddenly, Sam came out of her "trance" and started complaining about being bored and whined until we left. So we went to Oval Beach and Sam splashed everyone in sight.

July 4, 1967

Today I hope to tell the kids more of the life of the Keewatin. Again, I start out as, "She was sent through the St. Lawrence River to become a cargo and passenger ship for Canada. But after 50 years, the last of the classic Great Lakes Passenger steamship had to retire. Mr. Peterson wanted the Keewatin to come to Douglas, Michigan as a marine museum. As the Keewatin started on its journey to Douglas, it approached the Welland Canal, they had to cut thee boat in half. But they didn't use torches to cut in apart, they unhooked the latches. Next thing you know, the Keewatin looks like it is now, but cut in half. Me, myself I feel bad for thee ol' tug boat having to pull that some number of pounds down the Welland Canal all the way to the Kalamazoo River were it was then put back together."

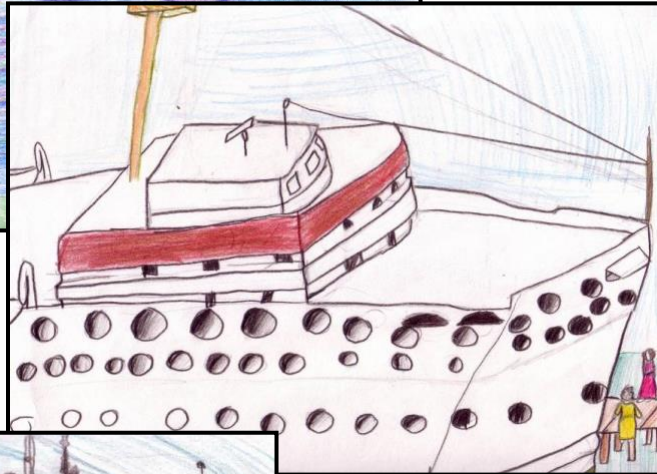
July 5, 1967

My family is leaving at the end of this week so I figured I'd get some more information on the Keewatin today. I found Elizabeth at the Root

Beer Barrel. No surprise there, of course, but still! I did not find the captain.

July 5, 1967

We are now leaving. No more foot long hotdogs, no more old captain what's his name. I don't want to leave! But I did get much information on the old Keewatin. I will not forget her.



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KONING HARDWARE

Author Bios

Jordan Overway - Hi, my name is Jordan and I'm 12 years old. I love horses very much. I have a horse named Jade.



Jessica Francis - Hi, my name is Jessica and I'm 11 years old. I love sports and I love going back to England every spring. That's where my family is from.



Dedications

Jordan Overway - To my mom and dad for inspiring me.

Jessica Francis - My family for coming and visiting the Old School House.

Journal Accounts

Sunday, March 20, 1903

My name is D.J. Franway and I live in New York. Now that I am 19, I have decided I want to live somewhere else for a while. I have decided to move to a little town called Saugatuck in Michigan. Mom and Dad bought the tickets for my birthday. I'm very excited to go, as well as scared, because I know nothing about this place. I will take a train from New York to Detroit, and then take a train from Detroit to Battle Creek. Then I will ride the Interurban to Saugatuck. We are leaving tomorrow morning. Down the street is where the train leaves, so I can just walk there in the morning. I have got to go and start packing.

Thursday, March 30, 1903

I just got in yesterday. Boy, was it a hard trip. But I made it and I found a wonderful hotel called The Butler.

After I settled in, I was interviewed by the gentleman who owns the Koning Hardware store in order to get a job there. So I don't know if he will hire me or not, but I'm going back tomorrow to see what he says. I hope I get the job.

Friday, March 31, 1903

I went back to the hardware store and I got the job! Mr. Koning said for me to come back in nine days to start working. You can't imagine my excitement! I can't believe it. I don't how many times I've applied for jobs. It is hard for women to get a job.

Mr. Koning told me a joke as I left. What do you get when a quarter horses crosses another quarter horse? Half a horse. He has quite a sense of humor, so I think I will enjoy working for him.

Friday, April 9, 1903

My first day at work was really fun and hard at the same time. The owner Mr. Koning is very nice, and he said it's very fun to work here. I had a great day today working at the hardware store and am looking forward to coming to work again tomorrow morning. I am going back to The Butler Hotel and I am going to stay there for a while. I will write again soon.

Monday, April 11, 1903

Today was a bad day for every one at the hardware store. Here's what happened. I was working in the store and I turned around because I smelled something burning. The building was on fire. The popcorn machine in the next building had burst into flames and was burning our place down too! I could not believe my eyes. I panicked. Running out of the store, I cut my finger on a key hanging on a hook. It was a while before help arrived, so the fire had already burned down the hardware store and some of the buildings next to it. I guess I am jobless for a while.

Saturday, April 25, 1903

I have gathered a little extra money from working, so I'm going to go on a little vacation. I have decided that I'm going to take a four day lake trip to Escanaba on the Goodrich Line Steamers. It cost 13 dollars. I had to take the Electric Line to Chicago which will cost a dollar fifty. I will get away for a while and think of where else I can work.

Thursday, May 1, 1903

The vacation was great. But I've decided to go back to New York to find another job. Mr. Koning is planning on building a sturdy brick building instead of one out of wood. He hopes that his building will become one of the four corners of the center of the town. He will make sure no fire can destroy the building again. So, needless to say, it will take awhile to build.

I've had a great time here and I'm definitely thinking of coming back again with my sister and my parents. I am leaving in tomorrow, so I'd better start packing. Tomorrow will be a long day. Goodbye, Saugatuck.



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MT. BALDHEAD

Author Bios

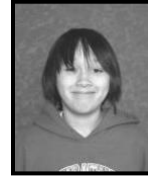
Alex Segovia – Hi, my name is Alex Segovia. I'm 12 years old and my favorite things to do are play sports, play video games, hang out with friends, and play with my dogs.



Sean O'Malley – Hi, my name is Sean O'Malley. I'm 11 years old and my favorite things to do are play sports, play with my dog, and play with my mini basketball hoop.



Logan Fritz – Hi, my name is Logan Fritz and I'm 12 years old. My favorite things to do are play sports, video games, and with my dog.



Cody Shriel – Hi, my name is Cody Shriel and I'm 12 years old. I like to play video games, cook, and hang out with friends.



Dedications

To the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society and the Old School House because we could not have done it without you.

Journal Accounts

July 1, 1957

It was a long ride, but we made and now we are here in Saugatuck-Douglas, Michigan. My buddies and I decided to go on vacation, so we picked somewhere we could enjoy the nature. We'll be staying at the Mt. Baldhead Hotel. I hear it is very nice. We'll be staying in room 6. The room is very nice. It had a huge bed and a great view. I could almost see all of Saugatuck from my window. For dinner we went to the John Ball Restaurant. I had a cheeseburger for the first time ever and it was quiet delicious. It was very juicy and scrumptious. At the end of the day, I climbed Mt. Baldhead and watched the sunset. It was very nice because we didn't have sunsets like this at home. So it was very enjoying seeing this.

July 2, 1957

Today we climbed Mt. Baldhead, then went down the other side and looked for things on the beach. We found many fossils. One had a little fish in it. It was a little minnow and it had very big teeth. I will bring these back to Ireland to show my friends and family. The beach sand was shiny and could here it squeak under my feet. I could smell the water; it smelled like fish. I actually enjoyed the smell. Once again I watch the sunset, but this time it seemed different. I think it seemed

different because I was closer and I could see the colors. The colors were beautiful and I enjoyed seeing them.

July 3, 1957

Today I rented a bicycle and rode it to downtown Saugatuck to go shopping. I had to go across a weird bridge. I believe it was called a swing bridge. It would turn sideways to let boats go through. It was the weirdest bridge I had ever seen.

I went to a little store and bought a new shirt for my brother it was only one dollar. Back in Ireland it would have cost about five dollars. Then I went to another little shop and found a pair new pair of shoes. They were very comfortable.

Next I went to this wonderful bakery called Douglas Food Shop and Bakery and bought some bread and ham for my buddies and myself to make sandwiches. The bread was so crisp and warm and the cold ham made it taste so much better.

At the end of the day we climb up Mt. Baldhead and raced down the other side to the beach. I won because I was a champion runner in Ireland. It was so much fun running down the hill. I could feel the wind in my hair and the see the beautiful sunset. Everyday the sunset seems more and more colorful and beautiful. After we raced down the hill, we had to run all the way back up, and it was very tiring. When we got back to the hotel I went straight to bed.

July 4, 1957

In America they celebrate a holiday called 4th of July and today is that holiday. It was the wildest night of my life. There were tons of people everywhere. A lot of them were from college and a lot of them were crazy. When we were walking downtown we saw a man passed out sleeping on a woman's car.

When I walked into a shop to find a cola, there were three people getting arrested. Then when I walked out of the store I saw two more people getting arrested. It was the wildest night of my life. Everywhere I looked, someone was either doing something against the law or getting arrested. The air stunk of rum, and so did the people. I was very confused why these people were acting like this on the day they celebrate their independence.

But anyways, it was a good night. We had a lot of fun and we also made a lot of new friends. We didn't get to bed until after 12:00 at night. But I still watched the sunset. On top of Mt. Baldhead, it was even prettier than yesterday's. It was probably because the sun was happy because it was such a nice night.

July 5, 1957

Today we went to a place where you ride a dune schooner. A dune schooner is a car type vehicle that takes you on the dunes in Saugatuck.

We bought a ticket to ride the thrill ride. It was amazing! We almost fell out of the dune schooner when we ramped off of a dune and flew about five feet.

We also saw a massive deer; it was a male with huge antlers. Its fur was so shiny it look like velvet. We don't have wildlife like this at home. When the ride was over, we went back to the hotel to rest.

Later that day we rented canoes and paddled down the Kalamazoo River. We stopped a little bay to eat lunch. We had sandwiches from a bakery. They were very delicious. The bread was nice and crunchy and the ham was cold and juicy.

I am sad because we will be leaving tomorrow. Tomorrow all we will do is pack and probably go to the beach one last time. So, tomorrow will be my last journal because tomorrow I will bury my journal as a time capsule. One day I may return and remember my fantastic trip. Or someone else may find it years from now and it will be a piece of history.

July 6, 1957

Today I have packed and that is about all. But I did climb Mt. Baldhead and buried the journal. (So I actually wrote this before I buried the journal.) Before I buried it, I found a little rock with a fish in it. I will bury this with my journal to show how much I enjoyed the sunsets on the beach. So these are my last words in this journal - my last words are goodbye Saugatuck and Douglas. I enjoyed my trip very much and hope to return one day soon.





BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

**WENDY COLSEN'S SIXTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
CLASS OF 2015**



***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

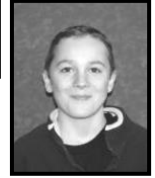
OVAL BEACH

Author Bios

Ryan Nye - I am Ryan Nye and I am 12 years old. My birthday is March 2. My favorite hobby is collecting Pokémon cards. My three favorite cousins are Christopher, Connor, and Barbara.

Josh Jones - I'm 13 years old and my favorite thing to do is to look at my dad's new 1974 Corvette.

Chris Strowenjans - I am 11 years old. My favorite thing to do is to collect football cards.



Dedications

Ryan Nye - I dedicate this to my mom because she takes care of me, my dad for helping me through everyday life problems, my big sister Monica who gave me good posture, and my little sister Emily who makes me laugh and smile.

Josh Jones - I dedicate this story to my dad because he is awesome.

Chris Strowenjans - I dedicate this project to my family because I have a big family and I love them very much.

Journal Accounts

June 15, 1968

I got here by car, it was my 1968 Corvette that I drove, and I went to Holiday Hill and settled in. After unpacking, my friends and I walked on the dunes and stayed at Oval Beach looking for fossils.

Then we went back to Holiday Hill, showered, and got ready to eat our dinner. We had dinner at The Butler and ordered hamburgers. Boy, were they delicious! We learned that The Butler used to be a grist mill and a hotel. They even took the floor off when they made it a restaurant.

June 16, 1968

This morning, we went for a ride on the dune schooners. You could see the channel and Oval Beach from the top of the dunes rides. It was amazing! All of my friends had a lot of fun.

In the afternoon, we had a party at Oval Beach where we took a little dip into the lake to swim, and some of us went fishing. Even people from town that we didn't know joined in the party and we all had a lot of fun. After that we walked back to Holliday Hill.

June 17, 1968

I woke up and got ready to go out to eat. I went to The Butler and we had breakfast. We had a lot of fun, and I liked the food. I had left a little tip on the table and I wrote them a note:

Dear Butler

Thank you for the food and the wonderful time that I had. Thank you.

I might come back again later and have supper. I was running out of money, so I am getting a job. I will work at a local grocery store as a check out person.

June 18, 1968

Today Chris and Ryan were going to find work because they needed money too, and we ran into my friend Josh. We all decided to go to Oval Beach later that afternoon.

While we were swimming, Chris and I got caught in a current. They call it a riptide. They are very strong and they can pull you out into the lake. At least one person a year dies from getting caught in one. I guess you have to swim parallel to the shore until you are out of the current, and then swim towards shore. People who don't know that try to swim against the current towards shore and get tired and drown. Luckily and my friend Ryan came out to help us and tell us what to do. I got out, luckily.

We walked back to our motel room to rest and put some clean clothes on. Chris had just got enough money to pay the rent for the week, but we still had to get some more money.

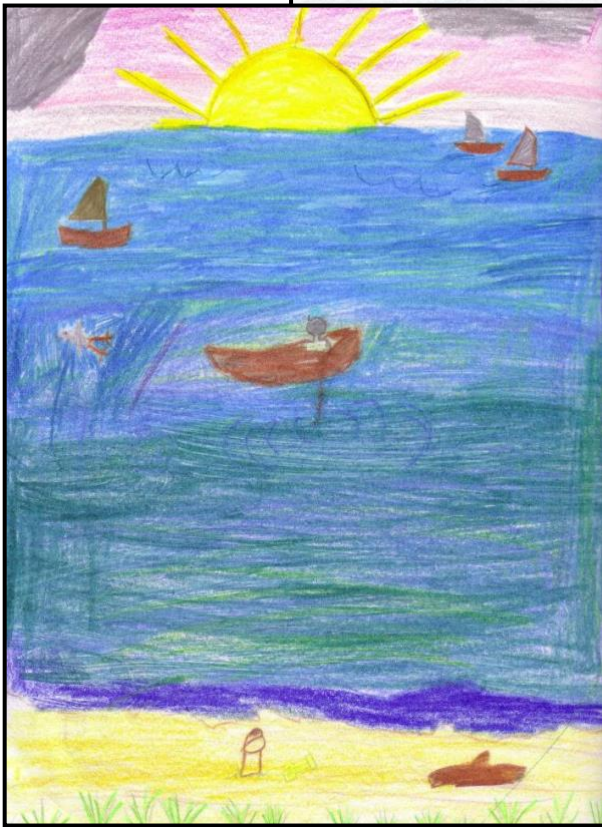
June 19, 1968

Ryan had to go and take a test to become a lifeguard at the beach. He passed the test! Chris, Josh, and I were proud of him. Ryan would be a very good lifeguard and he would save a lot of people.

To celebrate, we went to eat lunch at The Butler. Once again, we all had burgers and they were amazing.

June 20, 1968

Today is our last day of our vacation, so we are going to be heading back to Texas. We had to visit Oval Beach one last time. Goodbye sweet old Saugatuck and Douglas. Well anyway, we are going to come back next year. Hopefully...



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OX-BOW

A story told through words and pictures

Author Bios

Mary Cappelletti - When I am not at school I like to spend time with my friends, play sports such as cross country, soccer, or basketball, do art, write, go camping, or playing outside. I love nature, and most of my writing and art are inspired by it. My friend Ivy and I have had a great time writing our historical fiction as two girls at Oxbow and hope you enjoy reading them.



Ivy Gibson - Being Ivy Gibson, Mary's co-author, I have to write a bit about myself. My favorite thing to do is to read, but writing takes second. Some other hobbies I have are playing flute, violin, and piano, and spelling words. I made it to the Regional Spelling Bee two years running. This year I ranked 2nd out of 24. I recently had scoliosis surgery, and wrote most of my part for the journal accounts from home. I hope I entertain you.



Dedications

Mary Cappelletti - My part of the story is dedicated to my dad. He has inspired me to learn more about our town and our country's history. My dad loves walking to the Pump House Museum and looking at the work there. He always wants to take me, but I don't usually like going, so I hope this makes up for it! ☺ Love ya!

Ivy Gibson - I dedicate my writing to imagination as a whole. Without it, this story never would have been made. So without imagination, where would we be?

Journal Accounts

April 28, 1914 (Marion)

The air is filled with a sort of dirty smell. The train has been moving for what seems like forever. Ivi and I are going to stay up all night because we want to get the first glimpse of Saugatuck as soon as possible.

My mother says we'll only be there a little while, until they get more teachers at Ox-Bow, and then we'll go back to Chicago. Ivi's Father works for the Chicago Tribune and is also a cook. My Father is a printer. Unlike Ivi's mother, my mother works. She is a painter. Both my mother and father are going to work at Ox-Bow until they get more teachers. Ox-bow is an art camp made by the Chicago institute of art. It is located in Saugatuck on a lagoon.

The horn is finally blowing and the train start is starting to slow. I can hear my heart beating inside my chest and as we get closer, I see through the mist to the small station and see a busy town just waiting for my arrival. I can tell that it is going to be an exciting trip. -Marion

April 28, 1914 (Ivi)

Forgive me if my handwriting is shaky. I am on a train. Me, Ivi, on a train! On the way to the little town of Saugatuck. Mother and Father are finally letting me come along on one of father's cooking business. He is cooking for Ox-Bow School of Art, and it just so happens that Marion's parents are going to do some work there too. (They are artists.)

I am excited; fit to burst. Marion and I will have so many adventures. The first is the ride there. The train is going slow, and it is noisy. Marion and I are going to look over the side. We want to see Saugatuck right as we're coming in. I can't wait! - Ivi

April 31, 1914 (Marion)

We saw Ox-Bow for the first time. It was different than I had expected, but I would never go back home. Chicago is too busy at this time of the year and this is an adventure that I am ready to explore! We're going to be staying in tents on the Ox-Bow property.

Ivi and I went exploring and discovered that Fredrick Fursman and Walter Marshall dut founded Ox-Bow. Later we went to Parrish's drug store and got phosphates. They were delicious! My brother Joseph got a freshly squeezed glass of lemonade. No wonder they're known for their drinks! Before leaving town I promised Ivi I'd teach her how to paint so we got some art supplies.

A little after that, we took the ferry across the river and met Ivi and her parents at Mt. Baldhead. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson let Ivi climb to the top and run down with Joseph and me. It was great fun!

I was so hungry after climbing all over that hill that our parents decided that just this once they would let us go out for dinner instead of eating at the inn. The food was great and we fed the leftovers to the ducks. -Marion

April 31, 1914 (Ivi)

Today was great! Marion and I went shopping and did some exploring. We wandered around Ox-Bow a little. There's a magnificent place downtown Saugatuck where I got a strawberry phosphate. Marion and I might go back tomorrow. We also got some art supplies. Marion said she'd teach me how to paint.

After that we went to Mt. Baldhead. We met mother and father there, but they didn't run down the back. Don't tell mother, but I took my shoes off and let my hair loose to run. It was like I was flying. I was going so fast I almost couldn't stop. I fell down multiple times. We did other things, but I don't have enough time to write it all down.

Afterwards we got to go to dinner downtown. I felt so lucky. Then we went back to Ox-Bow where we are staying. I had the best time today. I can't wait till tomorrow; hopefully, it will be as good as today! - Ivi

May 4, 1914 (Marion)

Mothers! My mother told me that I couldn't play with Ivi today unless I did my chores! I was so mad at her! Oh well, some of them I did with Ivi, so it sort of was like an adventure. I had to help mother make the beds and then Ivi's father had us work in the kitchen. We had to clean dishes. Yuck! But at least we got to ring the dinner bell.

After chores we got to go exploring again, but this time it was a little more messy! Unfortunately, Ivi's mother and my mother made us include my brother in the whole affair. We told our mothers we were going to watch the painters in the meadow, but we had a little trick up our sleeves. We were really going to the lagoon!

We were going to catch turtles and have races with them. My brother was the first to catch one, but it was just a small snapper. Ivi and I trapped this beautiful turtle together and put it in a small box we had found. It was so pretty. It was as though someone had painted a beautiful picture on it, but as if it got smeared all over in the water.

While there, we met a nice girl named Lydie. She told us that the turtle we had caught was called a painted turtle. That made sense. Lydie's father works as a weaver and her mother died young. Lydie grabbed a net and joined us at the dock.

That's when the bickering started. Joseph wanted to be the only one at the end of the dock the whole time. So Ivi came up with an idea: we would all wait at the end of the dock and watch for a turtle when we would all throw our nets in. Our theory was that one of us would catch it. It didn't work! Oh well, I still had the best day ever! -Marion

May 4, 1914 (Ivi)

Today was another good day. In the morning, Mother made me do some chores: make the bed, sweep out the dirt, tidy my area. The list seemed to go on and on. After that, I had to go help out in the kitchen. At least that was fun, and I got to do it with Marion. When the noon meal came around, Marion and I took turns ringing the dinner bell. The dinner bell tells the painters and other artists when to come in for lunch. After that, we had to do the dishes. Bleh!

Marion and I were finally allowed to do what we wanted. We decided to go to the lagoon. We had a brilliant idea: we would try to catch the turtles. Unfortunately, Joseph had to be included. We argued about how we would catch one. Then we argued about what to do with it if we did catch one. What we agreed on doing was this. We would slowly, carefully, walk down the dock, net in hand, and wait until we spotted a turtle. Then we would all rush in with our nets and try to capture it. Our theory was that one of us had to catch it. It didn't work. Our nets ended up tangled, with no turtle.

We revised our strategy thanks to a new friend, Lydie, and Joseph caught one. It was a small snapper. Then Marion, Lydie and I caught a big one. It was wonderful! Lydie says it was a painted turtle. I had another great day today, and made a new friend. Tomorrow Marion is starting my painting lessons. I can't wait. I hope we can see Lydie again.

Everything is so beautiful here that I don't know what to paint first. The lagoon, the trees, the inn, the field, other artists at work, our tent... There's so much to choose from. Tomorrow will be a new and different day. - Ivi

May 8, 1914 (Marion)

Chores were required again today. We had to ring the bell again and do the dishes, but I didn't have any at the house chores so we got out to explore earlier.

Today, Ivi and I brought our painting stuff along with us on our adventure and that was our excuse to not include Joseph. Lydie told us about the dunes, so we decided to go and check it out. Climbing those hills was quite the adventure. Once again, even though our mothers told us not to, we took our shoes off. The sand was so hot that we had to run around to keep it from burning us! I let my hair loose and made a sand angel. We raced in the sand and I can't tell you how good it felt to have the sand between my toes.

We found a good place to paint, but couldn't decide what to paint. Lydie was quick with her decision, and she turned out to be a really good painter! Ivi was in awe at my painting! I painted a picture of the sky and the lake. I was actually quite satisfied. We decided to leave when dusk came because it was a long walk home and anyway, the walk home was just as fun! -Marion

May 12, 1914 (Marion)

Lunch wasn't the best today, and we were very antsy because we were going swimming in the lagoon after lunch. We ate our soup as fast as possible and then we raced to the tents (with Joseph screaming after us that we had to wait for him) and put our swimsuits on.

When we finally reached the dock, Lydie was already in the water. Swimming didn't last too long because it was cold and one of the painters told us that there was a huge snapping turtle that lives in the lagoon. No more swimming for us!

I took a painting class outside today and Ivi sat under a tree nearby and read. She's obsessed with books! Dinner was good, but not as good as a restaurant dinner. -Marion

May 12, 1914 (Ivi)

We went swimming in the lagoon today after lunch. Joseph, Mary's brother, came with us. Lydie came too. We didn't swim long because the

water was freezing. Brrr! One of the painters told us there was a huge snapping turtle that lived in the middle of the pond. I decided not to go swimming again after that.

Marion took a painting class today. I read a book under a tree. I am exceedingly jealous of Marion's painting skills. I don't know how she does it. It's so wonderful and peaceful here. I don't want to ever leave.

- Ivi

May 15, 1914 (Marion)

I'm in bed right now, wishing that it was back to the first day. We're leaving today. No matter how hard I try to convince my parents, they say we can't stay any longer.

May 15, 1914 (Ivi)

It's late at night. The crickets are chirping. I couldn't get to sleep, so I decided to write. We're going home tomorrow. Marion too. I wish I didn't have to go home. I'm going to miss this place. -Ivi

May 16, 1914 (Marion)

After getting up and going into the kitchen, I discovered that a boat had crashed. The boat was the sister to the one we would be riding home, so we aren't going home on that boat, in fact we're staying for good! We're going to build a cabin and have our stuff from home shipped to us. I am so excited that we get to stay here! -Marion

May 16, 1914 (Ivi)

This morning, I woke up to my parents talking. I stayed very still, listening to what they were saying. Apparently the sister ship to the boat we were riding home on crashed, leaving us with no ride. Staying was up to negotiation. Both of them wanted to, but they were worried about my reaction. They decided to stay! I jumped up with excitement and screamed!

Of course, I went to tell Marion the news, so I ran to find her while still in my pajamas. I literally ran into her. She was staying too! It was so exciting that we just sat and laughed for the longest time. And now, as I am writing this, we get to stay here in this awesome, amazing place.

- Ivi



BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

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LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
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***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
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AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

ROOT BEER BARREL

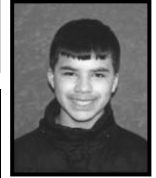
Author Bios

Louie Kiss - I am 11 and I live in Ganges, Michigan. I enjoy soccer and reading.

Jacob Holtsclaw - My name is Jacob. I am 13 years old. I like playing videogames and playing with my friends.

Joseph Brown - I'm 12 and I like playing basketball and I live in Michigan peace out.

Dayna Gresham - I am Dayna and I am 11. I enjoy hanging out with friends. I like soccer as well.



Dedications

Louie Kiss - I dedicate this story to the Old School House and the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society because we are doing this project for them.

Jacob Holtsclaw - I dedicate this to the original owner of the Root Beer Barrel because if it weren't for them, we wouldn't be able to do this project.

Joseph Brown - I dedicate this to the Root Beer Barrel fans.

Dayna Gresham - I dedicate this project to my mom because if it weren't for her, I wouldn't be here.

Journal Accounts

March 3, 2005

Private Google Chat Room

Dayna: Hey guys, remember Bob from Saugatuck? We spent some time with him that one crazy summer in 1959. Well, he died. ☹

Joseph: Yes, I remember him. He was funny. I lol when I think of him.

Louie: Hey, do you remember the Root Beer Barrel's foot long hot digity dog? ☺

Jacob: First you talk about a dead guy, then you talk about food. Not cool.

Dayna: Yes, Jacob is right, but Bob is having his funeral in Saugatuck.

Joseph: Maybe we should meet up there and have a reunion.

Louie: Yes, we should. Too bad the Root Beer Barrel is just rotting. It was such a cool place. Why doesn't anyone make it a business again? It's so historical. And hysterical.

Jacob: Do you guys remember when Joseph spilled the huge glass of root beer on that one skinny guy who was a friend of Bob's? He almost got into a huge fight until I talked him out of it.

Dayna: That was funny, but it was even funnier when he got that hobo to chug the root beer in under one minute. We had to buy him three foot long hot dogs for losing the bet.

Joseph: Hey, that was Louie's dad, not a hobo.

Louie: Ha, ha, ha! lol

Jacob: Well, I'm sure it was you who ticked the worker off when you dropped your whole tray of dogs on the ground and asked for more.

Dayna: That was me. Ha, ha!

Joseph: That reminds me of when Louie won our contest of who can eat four hotdogs the fastest. He almost threw up after he was done.

Louie: No I didn't. That was Jacob.

Jacob: No, Louie, I don't remember it that way at all.

Dayna: Guys, I liked the pizza and the candy the best. What about you?

Joseph: Yea, but I loved the mini golf place we always went to near the Root Beer Barrel like the one time when I hit the ball into the alligator's mouth.

Louie: I did, too, Dayna. Joe, it was a fake alligator.

Jacob: Guys, I kind of liked the hot dogs the best. They were a foot long. Where else could you get one of those? Actually, I am sure after they were cooked, they were not really a foot long.

Dayna: Can you all make it back to Saugatuck for the funeral?

Joseph: I can't, I'm all the way in Germany.

Louie: Joe, you can't make it in time for the funeral, but it would still be nice to see you.

Jacob: I can make it.

Dayna: Guys, please come. Even though it is a sad event, it would be so much fun to get back together and visit the Root Beer Barrel.

Joseph: It's kind of weird that we'd be going for Bob's funeral and it's like the Root Beer Barrel is dead too since it is sitting rotting in a field in Saugatuck.

Louie: I liked the owners, what were their names again?

Dayna: It would be so much fun if you guys would come to Bob's funeral and go see the remains of root beer barrel and hang out again.

Jacob: Dayna, I don't want to go there again because I want to remember it the way it was, and I have no clue what their names were either. But I will come to see you guys.

Joseph: Guys, I'm booking my tickets online as we speak. I will be there as soon as I can get there.

Louie: I will come, too.

Jacob: That's good news, Joseph, now we can see you again and remember all of our good times in Saugatuck and at the Root Beer Barrel.

Dayna: See you all real soon!





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SODA FOUNTAIN

Arthur Bios

Morgayne Wilson - Hi, I am Morgayne Wilson. I have lived in Saugatuck for six years. I love riding horses, drawing, and painting. In my spare time I like to play with my four dogs. When I go to Saugatuck, I like spending most of my time downtown with my friends. I hope you enjoy these journal entries as much as I enjoyed writing them.



Emma Mikolitis - Hello, I am Emma Mikolitis. I moved to Saugatuck three years ago. I enjoy painting and riding my bike. I spend most of my time downtown Saugatuck and Douglas because I live two blocks away. I have three cats who love Saugatuck just as much as I do. I hope you like our historical fiction. I know we enjoyed writing them



Josie Oren - Hello, my name is Josie Oren and I am eleven years old. I live in Holland, Michigan. I enjoy playing sports, listening to music, and I love the movie *Star Wars*. When I am downtown Douglas I like to watch the ballgames and read in the park. I have one dog whose name Neave. I enjoyed working on this project a lot and I hope you like it too.



Dedications

We are dedicating our journal to Mr. Schmiechen because he let our class use the Old School House Discovery Center for our project. Thank you, Mr. Schmiechen.☺

Journal Accounts

June 6, 1945

Dear Travel Journal,

We are finally in Saugatuck Michigan! We took a ship from New York City, our home, and came to Saugatuck for awhile. Every year since we can remember, we came to Saugatuck the day after school let out for summer vacation. Last time we came, Morgayne almost drowned, so we have not been here for about three years. Our mother blamed our Uncle Bramen. It wasn't his fault. My mom was just scared and mad.

Our Uncle Bramen owns the Soda Fountain, so now that we are old enough, he his making the three of us (Morgayne, Josie, and Emma – that's me) work there. The only reason we have to work is because then Uncle Bramen pays for our hotel, food, and anything we would like to buy.

We are writing this from inside our hotel, which is a very nice hotel. We checked in about an hour ago, and in about thirty minutes we must go to the soda fountain to meet Uncle Bramen.

Uncle Bramen called us this morning and said that the police found a dead body on the beach. The man's name was Donald E. Atwood. Uncle Bramen said he drowned. Some person saw his hand sticking out of the sand and then called the police. We hope we don't go to that beach, I do not think any of us would swim.

Journal 6, 1945

Dear Travel Journal,

The meeting with Uncle Bramen was great! We start our jobs tomorrow at one thirty. We can't wait! Uncle Bramen showed how to use everything.

After we met our uncle, we went to the drug store and bought some candy and a bottle of cherry soda for the beach tomorrow. We met two girls there. Their names are Helen and April. Helen is getting married in two weeks to Arnold Garrelets. She got engaged on the first of June. We invited them to the beach with us tomorrow. They are going to pick us up at the soda fountain at four. After made our plans, the five of us went to the Butler for supper.

Right now we are at the park by the river waiting for the ferry. We are going to go walk up Mt. Baldhead. Helen said it has over two hundred stairs!! Tomorrow we are all going to the beach, Arnold might come but he might have to work. April said that she is going to pack a picnic dinner if she has time, so we don't have to go out.

June 7, 1945

Dear Travel Journal,

Last night was so much fun. We climbed all the way to the top of Mt. Baldhead!! After that we walked back down and went back to the hotel. Last night we were so excited to start work at the Soda Fountain, but today, honestly, it is very boring. All we do is sit at a counter and make ice cream sodas, Uncle Bramen was not there either, so we did not get to see him, and he was the only reason we came to Saugatuck. We only served about ten groups of people.

Helen and April picked us up right on time, they also bought Arnold. I am so glad he made it. We had so much fun; we were so glad that we did not go to the beach that the man was found at. Arnold said that the beach is closed to the public because they want to make sure the water is safe.

We swam at the beach until five thirty, then they dropped us off at out hotel to clean up in the washroom. We met at the Butler Hotel for dinner at six. I think we are becoming good friends, tomorrow Helen and April are going to the movies and then shopping for a wedding dress. They invited us to go with them. We cannot wait!!

June 8, 1945

Dear Travel Journal,

We woke up at seven o'clock to make breakfast and get ready to go. At eight thirty April picked us up to go get wedding presents downtown. Then at nine, we picked up Helen. When we got to Holland, we ate lunch and then we saw *Gone with the Wind*. We do not think April liked it very much, she is not into romance movies.

After the movie (which Morgayne, Josie, and I enjoyed a lot), we went to get Helen's wedding dress, and we found the perfect one. It's white with lace and a lot of ruffles. There is also a beautiful long veil. She is very excited, as her wedding is on the 20th. It is too bad that we will not be here. Maybe Uncle Bramen will let us stay for the wedding.

We ate dinner down in Holland at a little café; neither of us remembers the name, probably because it was such a long day. April dropped Helen off at home and then we went back downtown to pick up April's present for Helen. Tomorrow we are going to all go out to breakfast at a little diner. When we are there, we are going to give Helen her wedding present. We can not wait!

June 9, 1995

Dear Travel Journal,

Breakfast was so much fun! April gave Helen a beautiful necklace and we gave her a flower vase. I think Helen enjoyed all her presents. Arnold was there too and he showed her the wedding ring, because he had not yet. I think she liked the ring the best.

After breakfast, we went to the Soda Fountain to start work, but because it was very slow, Uncle Bramen told us we could go home. We spent the day downtown shopping and then we packed. We both want to stay for the wedding, but mom forbids it. Well, we have to go to bed since we leave at ten tomorrow morning. Before we leave, we are going to have breakfast with Uncle Bramen. He also wishes we could stay. Got to go.

June 10, 2009

Dear Travel Journal,

Today was our last day in Saugatuck, It was a fun stay. We had breakfast at The Butler with Uncle Bramen. Next summer we are coming back (Uncle Bramen begged mother) to work at the Soda Fountain again.

April, Helen, and Arnold met us in the morning to say goodbye. We are all going to miss them. After the wedding Arnold and Helen are going to Vermont. April said she be here next year, hope she is right. Bye, Saugatuck.



BLAST FROM THE PAST: A HISTORY OF SUMMER FUN

BY

**WENDY COLSEN'S SIXTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS
CLASS OF 2015**



***COVER ART BY CAROLINE FINN**

**A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN
THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

TENTING

Arthur Bios

Mikayla Lacy - I am 12 years old and I love sports and music. I also go to Saugatuck Middle School.

Emily Claeboe - I'm 11 years old. I play soccer and softball. I'm in band and play the flute. I love it here at Saugatuck.

Kerensa Hofmeyer - I am 11 years old and I go to Saugatuck Middle School. I love to play basketball and volleyball.

Emily Schutzenhofer - I love sports and I am 11³/₄ years old and I like to go downtown Saugatuck!!!!!!!



old,

Dedications

Mikayla Lacy - I dedicate this to my family for always being there for me.

Emily Claeboe - I dedicate this to all who read this book because this is written for them to read about the past.

Kerensa Hofmeyer - I dedicate this to my family because they love me very much.

Emily Schutzenhofer - I dedicate this to my family and the town of Saugatuck!!

Journal Accounts

July 23, 1898

Today we are sailing to Saugatuck on the Bon Ami. We are going to be tenting at the bottom of Mt. Baldhead. The boat ride was 6 hours and 40 minutes long. I was sitting around on the boat most of the time. If I got sick of, sitting I would walk around and talk to some of the kids my age.

While on the boat I met a kid that was going tenting too, his name was Richard. We would look over the side of the boat at the lake, and when I did I felt like I had to vomit. Finally, I saw Saugatuck and it was bustling with people.

After we arrived, we got our tent set up which had wood floors, furniture, rugs, and some had running water. This year our tent had running water. Our tent's name was Uneeda. We took the rest of the

afternoon unpacking and getting settled in. I introduced my parents to Richard's parents. They even invited us to dinner in their tent.

July 25, 1898

After breakfast, Richard and I went clamming in the river near the campsite. It was hard to find them because they aren't very common where we were looking for them. Eventually we filled the bucket all the way to the top with clams. After collecting all of the clams, we cooked them for mom's clam soup. The clams messed up my stomach up! I am the only one that is feeling like this, so I have decided to go to bed early tonight.

July 28, 1898

Today as I was getting up, I went outside and felt the cool sand under my feet. I stepped into the lake for a few moments, but it got cold after a while. Just as I was about to wade into the lake, I heard Richard call my name and he asked me if I wanted to climb Mt. Baldhead. I said yes! We decided we would leave at about 11:30.

We met at the bottom and started climbing. Though it wasn't a long climb, it was still tiring. When I got up to the top, I was darn tired and very weak because it is all sand except for the tower. Luckily Richard brought a basket of food full of apples, ham sandwiches, juice, and last but not least, watermelon. I love watermelon!!

Then we saw a bunch of ropes. Both of us grabbed one, then backed up, then ran forward. We flew in the air and landed in the sand. We then slid all the way down Mt. Baldhead and ran into our parents. I was so tired after Richard and I came back that I took a nap.

July 30, 1898

Early this morning when I awoke, I felt something moving under my feet. I looked down and a termite went into the wood floors. Then I looked around and there were ten of them all around on the wall and in the floor. I let out a little scream and that woke up my mother and my father. We got a bucket from outside and scooped them all up, and then I took them outside again and threw them in the water. I'm guessing they all drowned in the lake. It's okay because they were about ready eat all of the wooden floor in our cabin.

That would have been really bad!!! After that, when everyone calmed down, my mom said that tomorrow we are going to have a cookout. We asked some other people that were tenting with us to join us they said yes! I can't wait because all of our friends are going to be there.

July 31, 1898

Today my parents woke me up at around 6:00 in the MORNING!!!! I had to get dressed and I had to help set up. Once I had freshened up

and got clean, they said we all had to go into town and pick up our fresh meat that we ordered.

As we stopped in front of the store, we saw Richard and his parents. They had a bag with them and in it was a new fancy shirt! Richard said he was going to wear it at the cookout tonight.

After we got done talking to them, we walked into Palace Market and picked up our chicken that we had ordered and left. I heard my parents talking about how big the marketplace was and that they should stop there before we leave, so they can ship some meat or even fruits and vegetables over to Chicago.

Mother and Father surprised me by getting one of those fancy shirts from A.B. Bosman just like Richard had gotten. Mine was a different color with a different pattern.

Later in the afternoon...

Everyone met each other outside of our tent at around 4:00 in the afternoon. The parents were all talking with each other when Richard and I left to go and get our bathing suits on.

As I was getting my bathing suit on, Richard was already done and he told me to shake a leg or hurry up! So I did and I nearly fell flat on the floor!

We went splashing into the lake and all of the adults looked at us. We just smiled at them and went back to splashing one another. The adults then went into their tents. I thought they were going to get their swimsuits on, but they all came back with some food and Richard and I hopped out.

The wind blew and the smell of freshly picked strawberries floated my way. As I got to the bowl I could see that there were very juicy, and as I stuck them into my mouth, my mouth literally exploded. I hadn't had a fresh juicy strawberry in ages!!!!

I got full from the strawberries, so I only had a tiny slice of chicken and steak. Richard was really full too, so we jumped into the lake and went for a swim just before the sun went down and everyone left for their own tents. What a fun night!!!

August 2, 1898

There hasn't been much to write about lately since it has been raining out. I can see the sun starting to peak through the clouds even though it is still drizzling. Finally the rain has stopped.

After the rain stopped, we went to the beach with Richard and his family. The water was so high up on the beach because of all the rain. We stayed at the beach for about two hours. We swam, built sand castles, and ran all over the place. We found millions of seashells while we were running around. Some we kept, but others we threw back into the water to see which would create the biggest splash! When we got back, we had to use the sink to get all the sand off of us. We had so much fun.

August 4, 1898

Today is the last day here in Saugatuck. We are still packing all of our belongings. While Mother and Father were packing, they told me to have run with Richard on the last day, so we decided to go downtown Saugatuck.

It was really busy downtown and the sidewalks and stores were crowded. We stopped by a store called The Saugatuck Drug Store. There I got a Peggy, it is a tin box that holds my gum on a peg inside. Now, I can keep my gum for awhile or until it loses its flavor. I also got a pack of gum that cost eight cents.

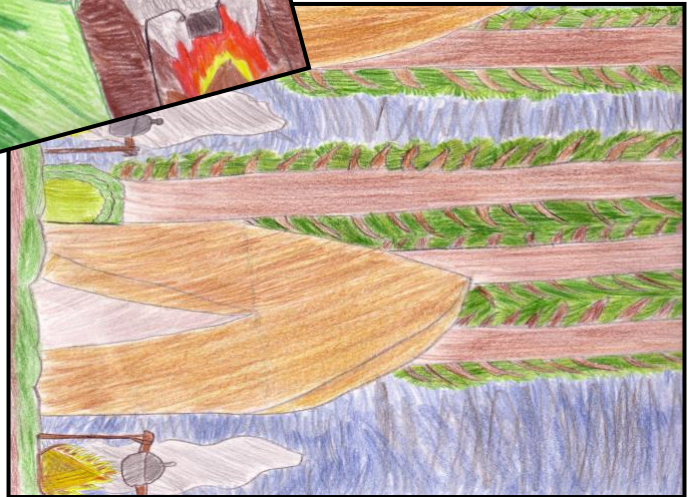
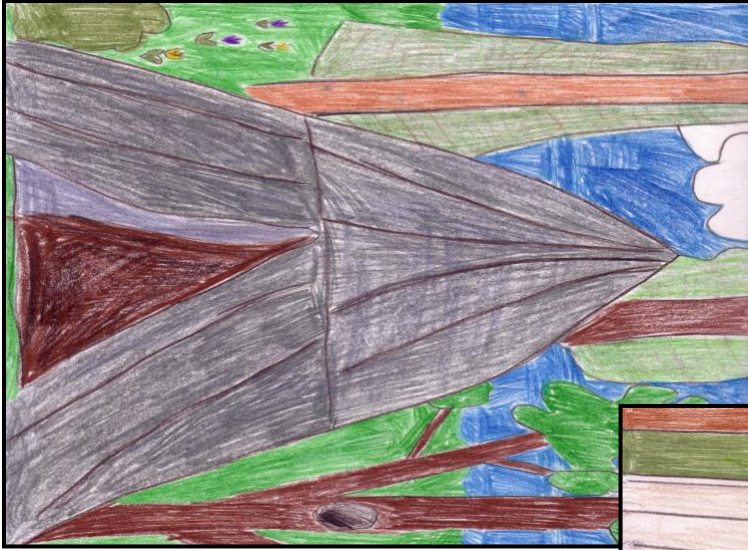
We went back to the tent and our parents said it was time to go to the boat. We grabbed our trunks and headed for the Bon Ami. The boat left the dock 30 minutes after we got on. There I talked to some of the crew people and learned that Bon Ami means "Good Friend." I also learned that the Bon Ami has a sister ship called the Bon Voyage. When the whistle blew I jumped up because it scared me out of my own skin.

I overheard my parents talking about how we might be able to come back next year. That made me truly excited!!! I ran to go and tell Richard, but he said that he didn't think he would come back. I asked why and he said that his parents would want to go somewhere else. I need to go and eat dinner now, but I will be back!

Later that night...

I am in my cabin with just the moonlight and a small candle to see what I'm writing. I need to write fast, so my parents don't see me. I feel like I could blow up any minute. I am still so full from that delicious dinner we all had tonight.

I hope next year I can see Richard and get to play with him some more. I think that this has been the BEST vacation ever!!!!!! If I don't, I hope I will meet someone like him next time we go tenting. I must say good bye until next year.



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VENETIAN NIGHT

Author Bios

Adam Kimball - I am 12 years old and am in the sixth grade. I love to hang out with my friends and just have a good time. I enjoy watching movies and skateboarding.



Alex DeWitt - I am 12 years old and am in 6th grade. I love to roller blade and ski. I like to have parties and hang with my friends. My favorite author is Gordon Korman, and my favorite movie is *Independence Day*.



Aubrey Darling - I am 12 years old and in 6th grade. I love the movie *Bedtime Story* and I have three pets. I hate chocolate.



Kyle Harbison - I am 12 and in the sixth grade. I love hanging out with my friends and family. My favorite movie type is horror.



Jennifer Kelly - I am 12 years old, in the 6th grade, and love to hang out with my friends. I like to watch comedies and scary movies too. I also like to swim and to listen to music to make me happy!!!



Dedications

Adam Kimball - I dedicate this to all my friends and family for helping me through everything I do.

Alex DeWitt - I dedicate this to my family and my teacher Mrs. Colsen for helping us along the way.

Aubrey Darling - I dedicate this project to my parents because they've helped me through school.

Kyle Harbison - I dedicate my project to my family because they love me and to Mrs. Colsen for helping us along the way to make this project easier.

Jennifer Kelly - I dedicate our project to my parents because they help me out a lot.

Journals Accounts

The Background Story: My name is Kevin. My friends Peter, Harry, Tess, Nicole, and I have all just recently graduated from high school. Before we go to college, we are taking a vacation and we're going to Saugatuck, Michigan! We live in California, so this is going to be a big trip. This is our story.

May 4, 1960 (Kevin)

We drove into Saugatuck today. The town is so alive. People were walking around, going to stores, and having lunch. We need this vacation, because college is going to stress us out! We decided to make this travel journal to show our parents back at home and to remember what we did.

As we were driving, we saw a nice hotel we could stay in. It was the Hotel Saugatuck! It looked like a nice place to stay, so we checked in. As we were walking in Harry shouted for me to check out a flyer.

I walked over there and Peter followed. This is what it read:

Come to the Venetian Night celebration. Join us for waterfront events followed by boat parades and fireworks! It's a night like never before. Events include: watermelon racing, boat parades, fireworks, yacht races, canoe races, and much more. Don't miss out on this special night! Meet us down at the waterfront for your admission! If you want to enter a boat, see Tom once you get to admissions.

Tess really wanted to go!

May 5, 1960 (Tess)

Hey it's Tess! I can't wait for Venetian night! It's going to be so fun! Today we are going to be buying a boat. We spotted a boat rental place, pulled over and parked the car. It was going to be great.

When we got inside we met a nice man named Steven who gave us a list of prices. The boat we wanted was big and kind of flat, so we could decorate it however we wanted.

Steven said the boat would cost three hundred dollars. We all pitched in and bought it. Steven even helped us get it on a trailer and get it back to the hotel.

When we got back to the hotel all of us were in a silent thought trying to think of a theme. Then Harry yelled, "Let's make our theme about sharks!!!"

Everybody agreed and I yelled, "Great idea! Let's do it!"

May 6, 1960 (Peter)

Hey how's it going? I'm Peter. Today something happened that nobody expected and it was awful. Here's how it happened....

Today we were decoration our boat for Venetian Night. We got the supplies that would make our boat be the best shark it could be. As we were decorating across the river from all the attractions, we heard an ear

piercing scream from the other side of the river that made us mess up the painting.

When we looked over at the Big Pavilion, we could see smoke rising from the roof. Not long after, a siren sounded from the smoking building. We watched as people from across the river stared in horror as the most famous building on the coast of Michigan burst into flames.

It was devastating to everybody. As soon as the trucks started to arrive, we jumped in our boat and raced across the river to help the men. Tess kept saying how horrible it was.

When we got to the other side and docked, the chief of police warned us to stay away, but we told him we wanted to help. He let Harry, Kevin, and I go, but told the ladies to stand back. Tess got very angry at that.

We ran up to the men and they handed us a bucket of water. We joined the local high school boys in the bucket brigade. The local doctor also spread some greasy substance on us to protect our faces. We approached the fire cautiously, aware that the fire could become out of hand very quickly. After many long and hard minutes, the chief brought us back to the safe zone and told us to stay back.

After a few hours the fire finally burned itself out. Most of the town was sitting at the wreckage watching the men put out the ashes of the once magnificent building. It was the most devastating thing to happen in the history of Saugatuck, and unfortunately we had to witness it.

That night we were having trouble sleeping with the thought of the once standing building in our heads. It was not something we wanted to have to go through on the vacation of our lives. The only thing to lift our spirits now was the upcoming Venetian Night. We only had two months to turn our boat into the most realistic shark in the history of boating. We had to start working hard.

Two months later...

July 28, 1960 (Kevin)

Hey it's Kevin. Summer is stretching on and on, and Venetian night is coming quickly. Recently, we have been having a lot of fun and one of the most fun things happened just last night.

We went out to Oval Beach and stayed there the whole day. We got away with lighting off some fireworks since Venetian Night was so close. The girls went tanning and we had this giant water fight. At the end of the day we lit up a bonfire and cooked hot dogs and made S'mores. Then we all danced to music and by the time we were done it was half past ten! We headed back to the hotel and slept because we were going to hit up Mt. Baldhead the next day!

July 29, 1960 (Harry)

Ahh! It's Harry! We had a super fun day today. First we took the ferry across the river and went to Mt. Baldhead. We climbed all the way up and ran around down the backside. We pushed each other around and had lots of fun. By the end of the day, Kevin had pushed me so much I had sand filling my whole shoe! Afterwards we got cleaned up and went out to The Butler for lunch. It was so much fun. We crashed at the hotel afterwards. Tomorrow we get to just stay at the hotel and relax.

July 30, 1960 (Tess)

Hey, it's Tess! We had our off day today. We were hanging out at the hotel because we were tired and we are resting up for Venetian night which is tomorrow! We did some finishing paint touches to our boat and put on a transistor radio, so it would play our favorite songs. We had lots of soda today, and then went out to watch the waves at the beach. Our big day is tomorrow.

July 31, 1960 (Peter)

Hey, Peter here. Tonight was VENETIAN NIGHT!!! I couldn't wait for the boat parade all day, but we had the waterfront activities first. I'll tell you all about them.

First we did the watermelon races. They were very fun! We would get into canoes and someone would throw a watermelon into the water. Then the two canoes raced to get it using whatever dirty or flippy tactics available. We won every time.

After that, we watched countless boat races and events. It was so exciting to see yachts, racing neck and neck, about to go over the finish line.

Then we were called by a nice man to bring our boat to the launch to get them in the water for the parade. As nighttime descended, we got ourselves ready for the parade.

The nice man came and asked us if we were ready for Venetian Night and I was ready as ever. We coaxed the boat out of the docking area and floated out into the circle of boats. I played our music and turned it way up.

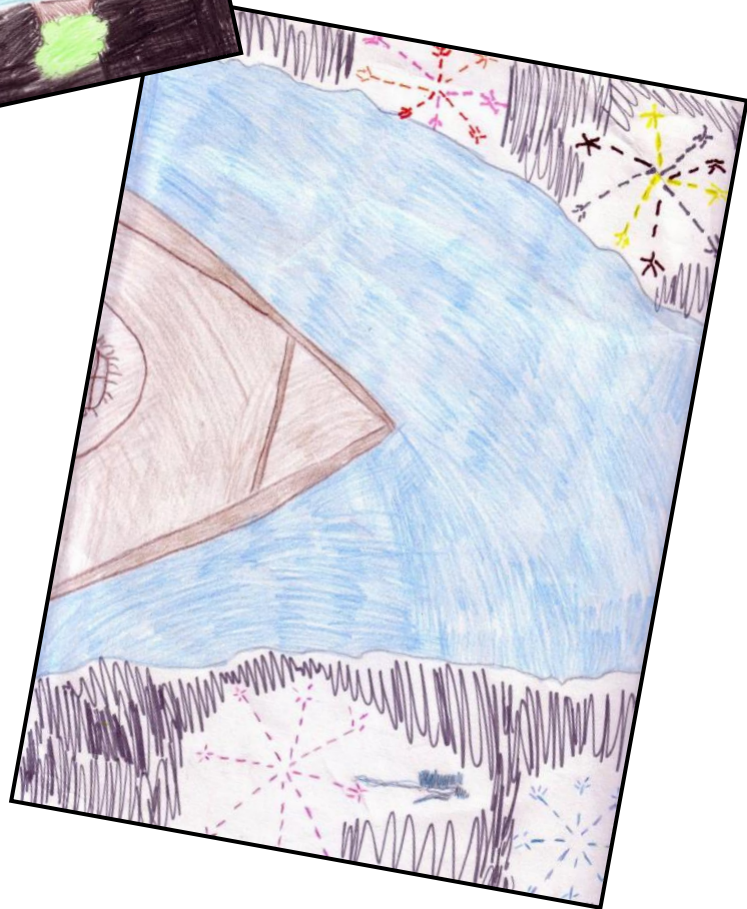
There were other boats like the Arctic Boat, and a few others but nothing compared to our shark! People swam to our boats and asked if they could join us and by the end of the night, we had twenty people crammed onto our boat!

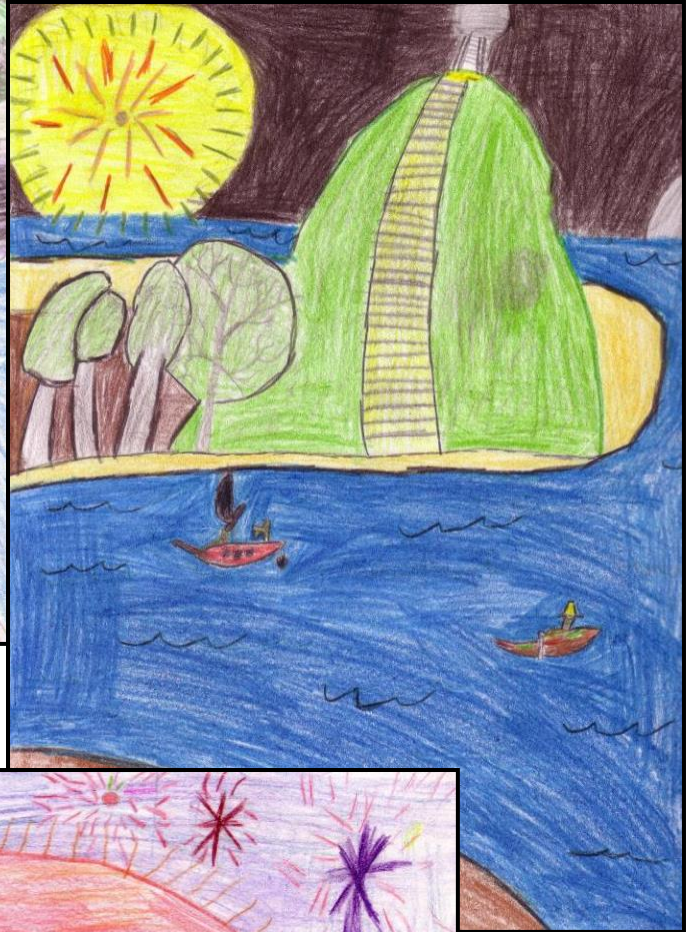
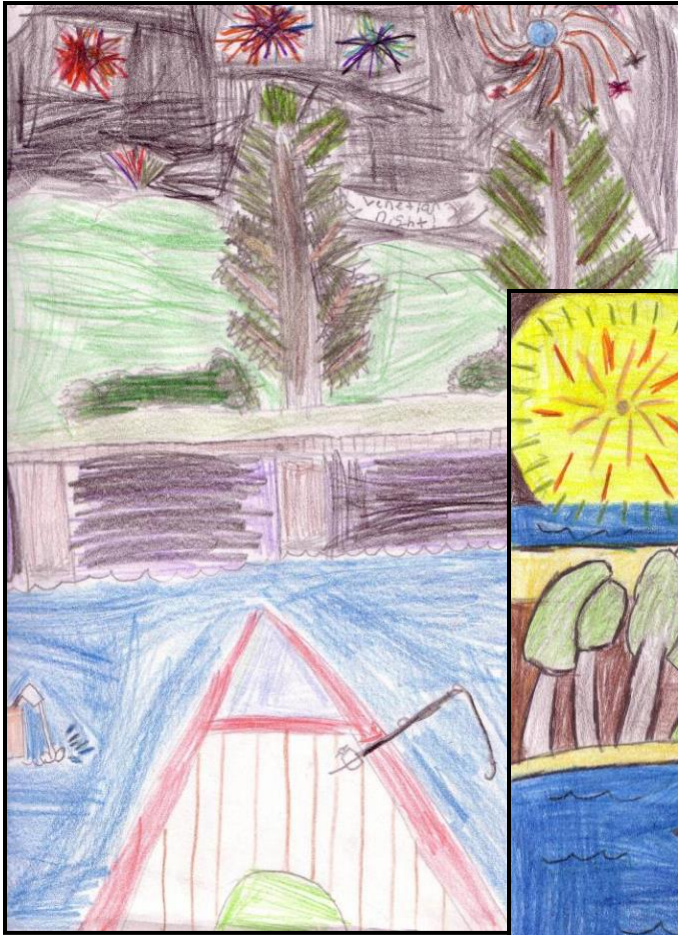
At the end of the parade, they gave us all the awards and we got first! I was so happy that I screamed!

When we headed back to the hotel, I felt good. Even though we had to leave Saugatuck, we were leaving knowing we had a great time. I loved Saugatuck!

August 31, 1960 (Peter)

We got our stuff all packed, and we are driving away from Saugatuck. Off to start our new lives in college. I hope I will see this lovely town again one day. I am pretty sure I will come back again soon.





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2009 TOURIST TRIP

Author Bios

Megan Biller - I'm eleven years old. I like swimming, laser tag, and music. My favorite bands are All-American Rejects and Fall Out Boy. I like a whole lot of others too. My favorite cartoons are *Pucca* and *Kid vs. Cat*. My favorite food is spaghetti.



Rachel Sutherland - I'm twelve years old. I love music, drawing, and traveling. My favorite food is anything Asian and Chinese.



Morgan Bush - I'm eleven years old and in the 6th grade. My favorite sports are softball and basketball. I love summertime and camping, and my favorite food is Chinese.



Dedications

Megan - I dedicate this to my parents and Pete Wentz because they inspire me with life.

Rachel - I dedicate this to my family because they love me.

Morgan - I dedicate this to my family because they are always there for me and they inspire me to do more stuff.

Journal Accounts

June 1, 2009

We packed up from Australia and headed out on an airplane for our trip to Saugatuck, Michigan for the summer of 2009. We finally arrived in Grand Rapids, got in a rental car, and drove for Saugatuck. It took 45 minutes by car. We checked in to the Bayside Inn, and they gave us the key to suite nine. It is a waterfront suite. We unpacked and a couple hours later we fell asleep for the night.

June 2, 2009

We woke up from a lovely sleep and got our breakfast in the dining room in the hotel. It was a great breakfast, but we like going out to eat at restaurants better. Good thing there are many to choose from in Saugatuck and Douglas.

At 11:45 we headed off for our lunch at The Butler. We had a lovely time there too. It took us 45 minutes to eat lunch. After lunch we went to tour Saugatuck.

When we finally got done touring the town, we went to go see what Oval Beach looked like. It was beautiful. We watched the waves crashing on the shore. After a long day of fun we headed back to the hotel to sleep.

June 3, 2009

We got up from a long hard sleep. Good things since we have lots of plans today. We got up and got dressed for a day of fun.

We couldn't believe at how fast the time flies. It was already 12:30 and we had to leave to have ice cream at Kilwin's.

After that, we decided to rent bikes to take a ride around Saugatuck and over the bridge to Douglas. After we finished our bike ride, we went to the Soda Fountain at the Saugatuck Drug Store to refresh ourselves.

We had another exciting day of fun. We were so tired, we went back to the hotel to fall asleep.

June 4, 2009

This morning we went to Douglas to rent kayaks. Boy, do we love to go kayaking and smelling the fresh air. We ate lunch at Everyday People Café which was delicious. We may try it again for dinner.

After lunch, we went to go climb the rock wall at Coral Gables. How amazing was that? They also had a trampoline that you were harnessed to, so you could go as high as the sky and do flips. I've never been so scared and had so much fun all at the same time!

In the evening, we wanted to go boating with some of our tourist friends from England. We took a ride on the Star of Saugatuck which took us for a tour on the Kalamazoo River and a bit out on to Lake Michigan. We learned a lot of history about the area.

After that awesome boat ride we headed to the hotel to get a good night's sleep. We decided to go on a wild rides tomorrow, and rent jet skis!

June 5, 2009

Yeah! We went jet skiing today in the river and at Oval Beach. On our way to rent the jet skis, we saw our friends from England that we went boating with the day before. They joined us.

We rented three jet skis. I had my own. Wow, that was fun! Speeding out on the lake was amazing. It is so beautiful.

When our time was up, we said goodbye to our English friends and headed off for some lunch at Wally's. We had a delicious lunch. I had the perch which was to die for!

Then we decided to go for a ride on the Dune Schooner Rides. We had a blast and we would love to go on them again! The driver we had was very funny. We also got to hear about the history of Singapore, the buried town.

After all the excitement, we got a little sleepy and decided to go back to the hotel and get some downtime. We sat on our deck on the river and watched the boats go by. We loved hearing the warning whistle of the Star of Saugatuck. We also saw a strange land/water vehicle called the DUCK. Maybe we will try that tomorrow.

June 6, 2009

We finally got done with taking showers and getting dressed we decided to go out for breakfast. We had are breakfast at the restraint called the White House, and it was delicious.

After our lovely breakfast we wanted to do some golfing at Clearbrook Golf Course. After the 18-hole game, we wanted to do some sightseeing and go shopping. We saw some beautiful thing and bought a lot of things.

We ate lunch at Phil's which had a great menu. I got the nutty salad and the girls had broasted chicken. After a day of fun and stuffing ourselves, we decided to get some rest.

June 7, 2009

We woke up at 7:00 to get a ride on the Chain Ferry. We didn't know what a Chain Ferry was, so we were very excited to ride. Megan and Rachel weren't up for it but I was. The Chain Ferry is a boat on a chain that is hand cranked to get from one side of the river to the next. The captain let little kids crank the ferry across. I admit, I wanted to try too! The captain told us that the Chain Ferry used to be just a rowboat and also a big platform that would take horse and buggies across. There was one accident where they horses got spooked and fell off into the water. He wasn't sure if anyone died or what happened to the horses.

We rode the Chain Ferry to Mt. Baldhead and climbed the 282 stairs to the top. What a spectacular view. At the top of the hill we sat down and Rachel sat on something hard. Rachel got up and told Megan dig, so we got a big stick and dug it up. Megan pulled it up and at first, we weren't sure what it was.

It was a book of sorts, wrapped in protective wrapping. We unwrapped it and saw that it was a journal. It belonged to someone named Logan Alexander O'Malley. And it was from 1957! We took it with us to the hotel and read it. It was all about his vacation to Saugatuck, just like I am writing about mine in my journal. What great memories. We decided to bring it to the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society to preserve the memories forever.

June 8, 2009

We woke up and ate breakfast. We headed to the Pump House Museum at the bottom of Mt. Baldhead to donate the journal and see what exhibit was on display. Can you believe it? It was all about the history of summertime fun in Saugatuck and Douglas. The docent, a nice volunteer named Kit Lane, told us that there was also another neat exhibit in Douglas at the Old School House Discovery Center that some sixth graders had put together.

We just had to go see it. It was called Blast from the Past: A History of Summer Fun. The students were sixth graders from Saugatuck Middle School and their language arts teacher, Wendy Colsen, worked with the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society to get the exhibit together.

The students, pretending to be people from the past, had researched places and events around town and wrote fictional journal accounts of past summers in the area. They also built models of landmarks around town. They were very cute!

After the museum tour, we went to The Butler to make a reservation for Megan's surprise birthday party. She had no idea that we were taking her out. The surprise was tomorrow at twelve o'clock. For dinner we had takeout from Phil's. We decided to go back to the hotel to get some rest for the big day tomorrow. But before we go to bed we will be packing for tomorrow and heading home.

June 9, 2009

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEGAN!!!! After singing the birthday song, we ate breakfast and got all dressed up. Megan asked why we were getting dressed up, and we just told her that we were going to pick out here present. She asked what it was and we told her it's from Wild Dog.

We arrived at the store which sold goodies for pets and works with the humane society to find owners for dogs and cats. When we walked up, Megan saw the dog that she wanted; it was a Teddy Roosevelt Rat Terrier. Rachel got a little Beagle puppy and I got a Yellow Lab puppy. We bought the puppies for two hundred dollars, and brought them to the hotel and Megan named the puppy Liyha.

We got ready to go to The Butler. We only told Megan's that we where going there for some lunch. When we arrived, we opened the door and everyone called out, "Surprise!" Megan screamed in excitement, and everyone gave her hugs and birthday wishes. Megan was so excited that we threw her a party.

Afterwards, we had to go the hotel to pack up. We got done packing and headed for the airport with our puppies to head back from a beautiful nine days in Saugatuck.

