



2023 Maritime History Conference & Association Membership Meeting

Ludington, Michigan — September 7-9



Port of Ludington Maritime Museum

Thursday, September 7 – West Shore Community College

Opening Reception - Manierre Dawson Gallery, Arts & Sciences Building

5:30-7:30 pm - AGLMH members and guests are welcome to a casual reception with our hosts, while touring the new exhibition, "Remembering 150 Years of Maritime Legacy." Finger foods and light refreshments will be provided.

Friday, September 8 – Port of Ludington Maritime Museum

Annual Association Membership Meeting

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| 9:00am | Conference Registration and Welcome |
| 9:30am | Annual Business Meeting |
| Noon | Lunch |
| 1:15pm | Member Updates |
| 3:00pm | Afternoon Tours on Your Own... <i>suggestions...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historic White Pine Village• Big Sable Point Lighthouse• Ludington State Park• North Breakwater Lighthouse• Waterfront Sculpture Park |
| 6:00pm | Dinner on Your Own |

Saturday, September 9 – Conference Open to the Public

2022 Maritime History Conference

Mason County Research Center

Note: Walk-ups welcome for Conference and Roundtable; Pre-registration encouraged and is required for lunch.

- 8:00 am Registration - breakfast pastries & coffee
- 9:00 am “Ludington’s Maritime Legacy”
Historian Valerie Van Heest joins Rebecca Berringer for an organizational introduction.
- 10:00 am “The Forgotten Iron King of the Great Lakes: Eber Brock Ward”
Author Michael Nagle explores the extensive influence that Ward had on early maritime industries around the Great Lakes.
- 11:00 am “Wood, Steel and Ice: the Straits of Mackinac Railway Ferries”
Brian Jaeschke has researched and written about the historic railway ferries, progenitors of modern-day ice breakers.
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 pm “Ghosts of the Oceana Coast ”
Brendon Baillod will explore the highlights of his forthcoming book about bottomland finds in the Pentwater area, south of Ludington.
- 2:00 pm ***Great Lakes Maritime History Research Roundtable***
“Shipwreck Artifact Collectors and States: How To Work Together”
Panelists to be announced
- 3:30 pm Conference Wrap-Up

Saturday, September 9 – Dinner Open to Members, Awardees, and Guests

2022 AGLMH Awards Dinner

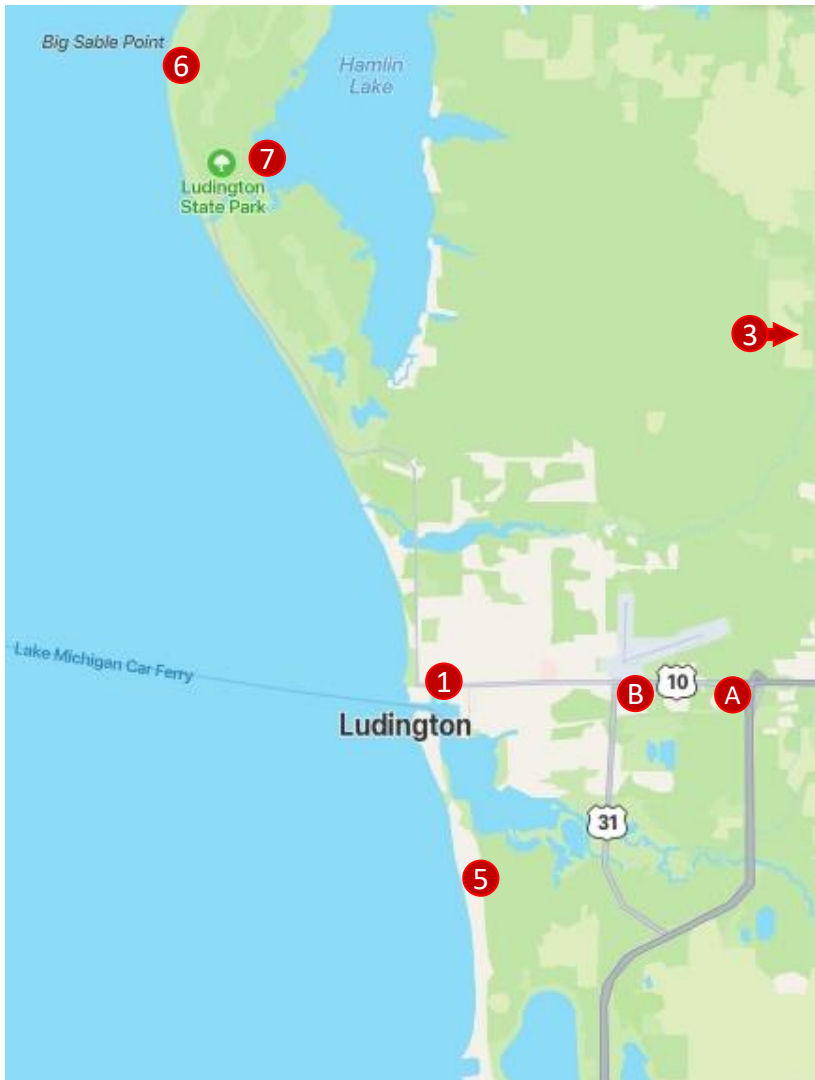
Stearns Hotel

- 5:00 pm Reception – Cash Bar
- 6:00 pm Dinner –
- 6:45 pm Awards Ceremony –
- 7:10 pm Keynote Presentation –



“Technological Evolution of Lake Michigan Railroad Car Ferries”
Art Chavez, 2005 Barkhausen Award Winner

Location of Conference Events and other attractions



Event Venues

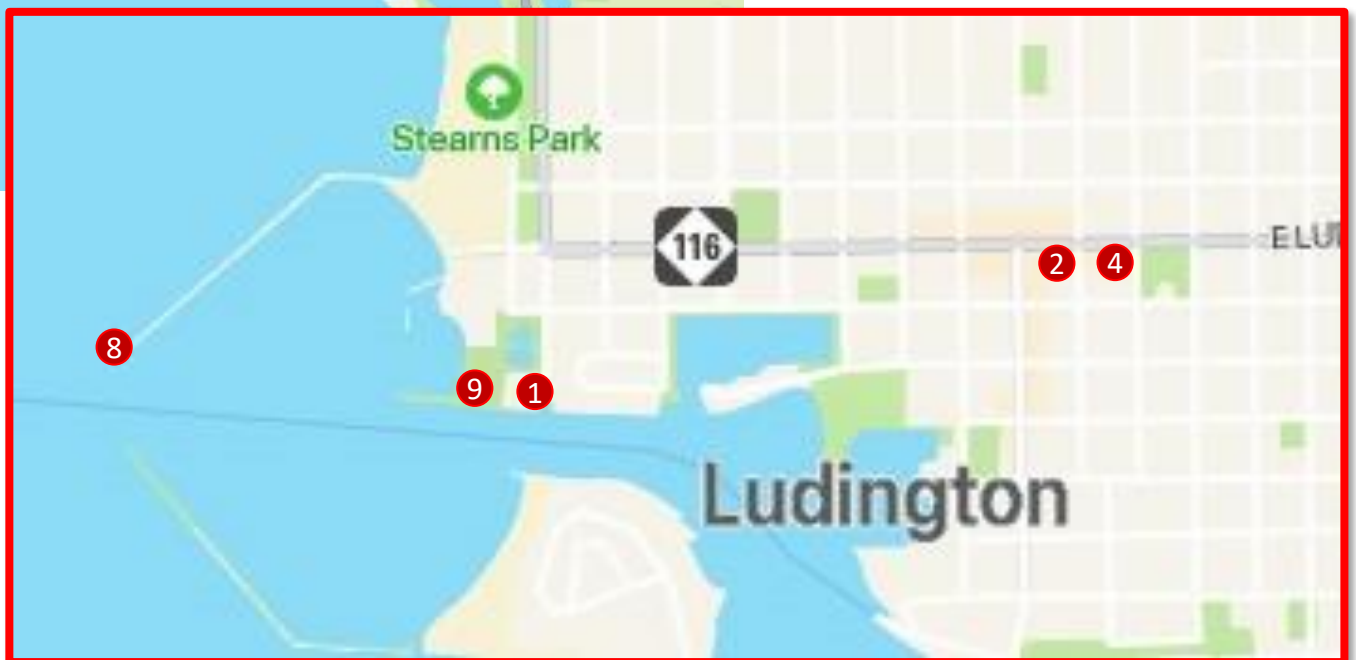
- 1 **Port of Ludington Maritime Museum** - 217 S. Lakeshore Drive
- 2 **Mason County Research Center**
130 E. Ludington Avenue
- 3 **West Shore Community College**
3000 N Stiles Rd, Scottville, MI 49454
(about 9 miles from Research Center)
- 4 **Stearns Hotel**
212 E. Ludington Avenue

Self-Tour Suggestions

- 5 **Historic White Pine Village**
A Mason County H.S. experience!
- 6 **Big Sable Point Lighthouse**
- 7 **Ludington State Park**
- 8 **North Breakwater Lighthouse**
- 9 **Maritime Sculpture Park**

Conference Hotels

- A **Holiday Inn Express & Suites**
- B **Comfort Inn**
- 4 **Stearns Hotel**



Conference Hotels

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

4079 W. US-10, Ludington, MI 49431

Phone: (231) 845-7311

Group name: PLMM

10% off regular rate. Block rate available until August 8, 2023.



Comfort Inn

5323 W. US-10, Ludington, MI 49431

Phone: (231) 845-7004

Group name: PLMM

\$135 for 2 queen beds. Block rate available until August 8, 2023

Stearns Hotel

212 E. Ludington Ave. Ludington, MI

Phone: (231) 843-3407

No room block.

This hotel is one block from the Mason County Historical Society's Research Center, site of Saturday's Conference, and will host the Annual Awards Dinner that evening.



Remember...Room Blocks DO NOT guarantee a room! Ludington is a thriving tourist area with numerous hotels and a long season. Book ASAP!

Registration – for Reception, Meeting, Conference, and Awards Dinner

To **register online**, follow this *fee-free* Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aglmh-2023-annual-conference-tickets-669422228907>

Questions to: conference@aglmh.net

Note that the S.S. Badger had to end its season early due to shoreside equipment failure.

Registration Deadline is September 1, 2023

2021 Conference Speakers



MASON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



VAN HEEST & ASSOCIATES

Rebecca Berringer and Valerie Van Heest
“Ludington’s Maritime Legacy” - The Port of Ludington Maritime Museum recently joined the ranks of more than a dozen long-established Great Lakes maritime museums, showcasing the region’s carferry, Coast Guard, and commercial harbor history. Valerie van Heest, recipient of AGMLH’s Hayward Award for Interpretation, will share important local events and discuss how she worked with the Mason County Historical Society to convert 800 square feet of open storage into an immersive museum.



MASON COUNTY PRESS

Michael Nagle – “Forgotten Iron King of the Great Lakes”
 Mike is a professor of history and political science at West Shore Community College in Scottville, Michigan. His latest book examines the life of Eber Brock Ward, from 1811 to 1875. Brock’s initiatives combined the region’s strongest natural assets – navigable water, iron, lumber, and opportunity – into an industrial empire. Nagle is also the author of “Justus S. Stearns: Michigan Pine King and Kentucky Coal Baron, 1845–1933,” which won the Kentucky History Award. He lives in Ludington, Michigan.



MACKINAC STATE HISTORIC PARKS

Brian Jaeschke – “Wood, Steel and Ice”
 Brian is the Curator of Collections at Mackinac State Historic Parks and has been on the staff since 2006. His interest in the Straits of Mackinac railway ferries began while studying Maritime History and Underwater Archaeology at East Carolina University. Prior to this, Jaeschke worked on several Great Lakes freighters. “Wood, Steel and Ice: History of the Straits of Mackinac Railway Ferries” was published in 2008. He was the co-writer of PROJECT: ICE, a documentary about Great Lakes ice and climate change. He makes his home outside Mackinaw City, where he serves as a volunteer firefighter.

Keynote Speaker



CHRIS WINTERS

Art Chavez – “Technological Evolution of Lake Michigan Railroad Car Ferries”
 Art has been researching the history of Lake Michigan’s railroad car ferries for over three decades, and has interviewed their crews, written dozens of articles, and has produced four pictorial histories on the topic. In 2005 he received the Barkhausen Award from AGLMH for a paper tracing the development and design of sea gates on the Great Lakes car ferries.



Brendon Bailod – “Ghosts of the Oceana Coast”
 Brendon is putting the finishing touches on his newest book about the shipwrecks of eastern Lake Michigan, adjacent to Pentwater. While researching the topic, he discovered ten new wrecks and compiled a complete inventory of the many vessels scattered along the bottom, including the *Anna Minch*, *Novadoc* and *Two Brothers*. Brendon is an award-winning historian, antiquarian and diver who regularly discusses his research and collection in public forums.