

## Calendar of Events:

- LSE Interurban Program  
May 13, 6pm, Library
- River Walk Tour @ Rotary Fest  
June 28, 3pm, Meet at Pier
- Membership Meeting @ C.V.I.  
August 21, TBD

Spring  
2025  
Newsletter

Huron  
Historical Society



[TheHuronHistoricalSociety.org/explore](http://TheHuronHistoricalSociety.org/explore)

## We honor the interurban heritage of Northern Ohio

In the spring of 2024, Huron Public Library's librarian, Jennifer Buch, invited the Society to participate in a 4-part lecture series, partially funded by the America 250- Ohio Commission. We have chosen to highlight the Lake Shore Electric (LSE) Railway, to which we have had the honor of collecting its history with interurban specialist, Dennis Lamont.

### Our May 13th L.S.E. Program is at 6pm, Lower Level of Library

Join us to honor this icon that closed exactly 87 years earlier (less one day) when the LSE had its last run on May 14, 1938. For three decades, from 1900 to 1930, the electric interurban railway played a major part in the economic life of the Midwest. By 1915 Ohio had 2,780 miles of interurban track, transporting passengers and cargo until the popularity of automobiles and buses lead to its collapse. During that period the Lake Shore Electric Railway operated routes from Cleveland to Detroit, via Avon Lake, Lorain, Vermilion, Huron, Sandusky, and Toledo. Highlights of this presentation will include photos of passengers, stations, stops, bridges, trains, and route maps of Huron, Ohio and its surrounding communities.

When describing Part II of the program, think of it as "reminiscences, reels, and remnants" of the LSE routes to and from Huron. Part I of the presentation will feature a video authored by the Society's research specialist, Kathy Muehlhauser, and narrated by Dennis Lamont. If you arrive early, the backdrop will be silent reels of the interurbans in surrounding communities. We have



documented remnants of old abutments, bridge piers, and stations. Steve Myers will be glad to answer specific questions about our local railways as Steve has over 30 years of experience in this field, to include his being a laborer in a rail maintenance gang and a logistics manager for containerized freight.

*The Niles Car and Manufacturing Company in northeast Ohio built "Electric Pullmans." These wooden cars were considered to be luxurious with Gothic windows,*

*"In the case of the Lake Shore Electric cars, magnificent Doppler effects were noted, since they blew for both Rye Beach and Boos roads. By the twenties, LSE's own whistles had become welcome trumpets of commerce, supplanting the earlier interurban whistles which produced unpleasant screeches.*

*Rye Beach Memories  
Of Robert Hess*

**Please renew your annual membership by mail or online. (Expiration is noted on label.)**

1) BY MAIL: Complete and detach this form. Mail a check payable to the Huron Historical Society for the amount of your membership level to P.O. Box 222, Huron, Ohio 44930. A receipt will be sent to your email.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

2) ONLINE: Pay with a credit card: [www.thehuronhistoricalsociety.org/about/membership](http://www.thehuronhistoricalsociety.org/about/membership)

**Membership levels:** Student (\$5); Individual/Family (\$35); Senior (\$25); Business (\$50); Benefactor (\$250) Lifetime (\$500) Lifetime members will be automatically renewed. Benefactors are renewed for 5 years. Questions??? Email us at: [huronohiohistory@gmail.com](mailto:huronohiohistory@gmail.com)

## Library Displays:

- Center Street Entrance  
LSE Interurban Artifacts
- Williams Street Entrance  
Huron Schools Memories
- Lower Level Display  
Huron Businesses

## Spring/Summer 2025: Society Open Hours, Wednesdays, 3-5pm

### Our Annual Membership Meeting hosts will be the Jones Family at their Culinary Vegetable Institute location in Huron

Save the date of **Thursday, August 21st**, for our members-only annual meeting. We are still in the planning stage of this gathering. The Jones Family is sure to please as they share their family's story with us that evening. We will send an email once plans are firm. If we do not have an email on file, we will send a note in the mail. New members welcome; come with payment.



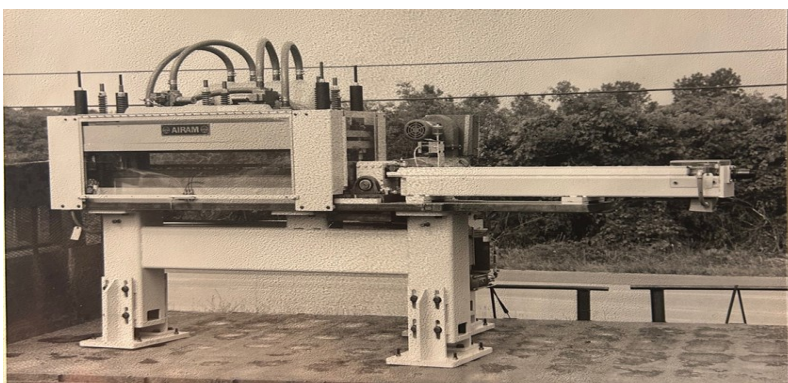
*FAR LEFT: You can have an opportunity to ride an interurban car on select Saturdays in Seville, Ohio at the Northern Ohio Railway Museum, beginning on May 25<sup>th</sup> and continuing through September.*

*LEFT: Have you ever noticed these former bridge piers located at the Riverside Cemetery, located on Route 61, on the south side of Berlin Heights? The LSE extended from its Ceylon Junction hub at the lake-end of Rt. 61 south to Norwalk.*

## Business History Highlight: Latanick Equipment

In 1973 the late Ken Watt purchased Latanick Equipment from its founder Frank Latanick and moved it to its 720 River Road location in 1975. A mechanical engineer himself, Ken and his crew of two purchased fabricating and welding machinery to serve the area contractors and farmers. A significant project was a request from Garrett Research to build a 20 ft by 50 ft rack to store cylinders. Due to the project literally being bigger than Latanick's facility, they built the rack in pieces and then assembled it at the NASA facility. Another common project that was fabricated for the locals were floating docks at such locations as Gull Harbor.

*Below is a picture of a "Flying Cut Off Machine" that was designed and mechanically constructed by Latanick Equipment, Inc.*



## Huron Yacht Club turns 70!

*This is an excerpt from the late Dr. Carl Swanbeck recalling the organizing of H.Y.C. in 1955:*

We met at the "Boat Harbor's" sandwich bar (three stools), but only a handful showed up. The result of that meeting was that we would incorporate the name "Huron Yacht Club", publish the fact of its existence, and invite people to join. At that point, none of us knew how to go about it, so a quick phone call to Nick Catri was made, who was the city solicitor at the time. Nick laughed when I called and said he would do it for \$25.00. Five of us kicked in \$5.00 apiece and one day in October 1955, I received a Certificate of Incorporation from the State of Ohio.....I was elected as the first Commodore, mainly by default, as none of us knew exactly what to do. Al Cawrse was Vice-Commodore. ....That winter we decided it would be a family club and liquor on the boats only! When we moved into the back part of the building, we built small bottle lockers, with strict rules about using the back part only for drinking, as so many children were around.