BEING A HERITAGE AREA

In 2019 CHP worked out what it means to be a heritage area not just in name but in practice.

As well as hosting successful events we have worked “behind the scenes” to pave the way for a successfully operating heritage area that will “enrich lives through stewardship and interpretation of the Calumet Region’s Heritage.”
Being a Heritage Area
A Renewed Mission and Vision

About CHP

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is a diverse bi-state partnership of environmental organizations, historical societies, arts organizations, libraries, educational institutions, government agencies, businesses, and individuals working together across political and cultural boundaries in the Calumet Region of Illinois and Indiana.

• All Volunteer Organization

In 2019 the Calumet Heritage Partnership adopted new mission and vision statements that better describe our current activity and vision for the future.

Mission

The mission of the Calumet Heritage Partnership is to enrich lives through stewardship and interpretation of the Calumet Region’s Heritage.

Vision

The Calumet Heritage Partnership pursues its mission so that the Calumet Region will:

• be designated by the U.S. Congress as a National Heritage Area
• host a rich variety of historic sites, parks, museums, galleries, and recreational amenities
• have a global reputation as an ideal place to live, work, and visit
• be a place of economic opportunity that attracts and retains sustainable economic development and a talented workforce.
• be home to people who understand, value, and take pride in the region’s diverse natural, cultural, and recreational heritage.
• be a welcoming region for all people.
Being a Heritage Area
Financial Support

Thank You to Our Supporters!

• Mortar Net Solutions
• Members of the CHP Board
• Calumet Collaborative
• Field Museum and Arcelor Mittal
• And you our members!
Being A Heritage Area

Financial Health as of December 31, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>£14,933</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>£9,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>£5,120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations and Grants Received in 2019

| Donations | £5,548 |
| Grants | £6,700 |
Being a Heritage Area

In Kind and Volunteer Support From:

• Calumet Collaborative
• Field Museum
• Board Members
• Our Members, Volunteers and Collaborators
Being a Heritage Area in 2020
Accomplishments

Collection
Connections
Conference and Events
Regional Heritage
Governance
Collection

CHP maintains a collection of artifacts and documents primarily from the ACME Steel Plant housed at Pullman.

This year we have agreed to donate the large ACME Sculpture to the Chicago Park District to be displayed at a public location to be determined.

Some of our artifacts were displayed in the Calumet Voices/National Stories Exhibit.

The Collections committee and the board are exploring options for a permanent home for our collection that will ensure its safety and that make it more accessible to researchers and the public.
CONNECTIONS

CALUMET CURATORS

• Calumet Curators group of CHP is a network of museums, galleries, and local history organizations, whose goal is to strengthen visibility for all organizations, illuminate and facilitate partnerships between and among organizations, and deepen thematic messaging and programming.

• Madeleine Tudor, Group Leader mtudor@fieldmuseum.org

Accomplishments in 2019

• Opened the first exhibit in the Calumet Voices/National Stories series in June at the Pullman Visitor’s Center

• Prepared the second exhibit opening at the Gary Library on January 31, 2020.

• Future Exhibits
  • Brauer Museum of Art at Valparaiso University, July – December 2020
  • Field Museum February 2021 through January 2022
CONNECTIONS
CALUMET OUTDOORS

• Calumet outdoors (formerly The Calumet Stewardship Initiative of CHP) seeks to facilitate communication and collaboration across the Calumet region around ecological initiatives and culture/nature integrated initiatives.

• Mario Longoni (mlongoni@fieldmuseum.org) is the group leader

Calumet Outdoors Facebook Group

Calumet Outdoors Series Events
• May: Sacred Wanderings Walk at Miller Woods
• June: Hear and Touch the Outdoors Brunswick Park
• July: Heritage to Action Along Chicago’s Little Calumet River
• August: Calumet’s Badass Women (Bailly Homestead)
• September: East Chicago Monarch Fest
• October: Rainbow Beach Bird Walk
• November: Griffith Historical Park and Train Museum
• December: Winter Solstice Hike and Campfire at Kemil Beach
CONNECTIONS
HERITAGE HACKERS

• Established in 2018

• The purpose of the Calumet Heritage Hackers is to provide a forum for creators and makers interested in heritage and to collaborate on producing publications and media using a variety of formats that interpret the Calumet region.

• Despite best efforts, Heritage Hackers were inactive this year. We hope to reinvigorate the group in 2020

• Projects could include a VR tour of a historic or natural site, maps, a design for a heritage area kiosk.
CONNECTIONS
CHP AWARDS PROGRAM

In 2019 CHP created a formal awards program.

• Keeper of the Calumet Award
  • Awarded annually by the CHP board of directors to individuals or groups who have made a significant contribution to the preservation, restoration, or interpretation of the natural, cultural, or recreational heritage in the Calumet Region.

• Calumet Heritage Partnership Leadership Award
  • Awarded on an ongoing basis by the CHP board of directors to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Calumet Heritage Partnership.

Inaugural recipient of the Keeper of the Calumet Award: Chris Boebel and Christine J. Walley
Inaugural recipient of the Calumet Leadership Award: Kevin Murphy

Photo by Matthew Kaplan
CONNECTIONS
LAKE SHORE PEOPLE’S
MUSEUM SUPPORT

• CHP participated in the formation of the Lakeshore People’s Museum in 2017 and has continued to be involved.

• Provided financial support for a People’s Museum Pop-Up Event at the Genesis Towers Senior High Rise
CONNECTIONS
SPRING AT SMALL FARMS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

• A project to preserve the history of the spring and its adjacent communities through the creation of a historical archive by Kay Westhues, Folklorist and Photographer

• CHP served as a sponsoring organization for an Indiana Humanities Commission Action Grant

• The Spring at Small Farms is an artesian well located on the southwest side of Gary, Indiana that supplied drinking water to residents of Small Farms and Black Oak, two rural neighborhoods of subsistence farmers.

• Public Presentation Event to take Place in April 2020.

Exnar and Johnny Burt at the spring
Photo by Kay Westhues
CONNECTIONS OTHER CONNECTIONS

- Partnered with director Paul Nelson and geography student organizations at Valparaiso University for a screening of Octave Chanute Patron Saint of Flight

- Provided support for the Society for Industrial Archaeology Meeting in Chicago

- Endorsed the NPS National Heritage Area Pollinator Initiative

- Agreed to be a fiscal agent for the Underground Railroad Project and supported their celebration to Announce National Designation of the Jan & Aagje Ton Farm Site

- Wrote in support of the preservation of the Gary Water Tower
Conference and Events
CALUMET HERITAGE CONFERENCE

• The Calumet’s Musical Heritage

• Keynote Speaker Robert Pruter on the Calumet’s contribution to Black Popular Music

• Memorable presentation and performance by Art Burton

• Musical Performances by Croatian Stars and Mariachi Son de Fuego

Photos by Matthew Kaplan
ACME Steel Bells Dedication and Picnic

On July 13, 2019 CHP held a dedication ceremony and picnic at Steelworkers park.
Regional Heritage

CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

• CHP working with the Field Museum produced A Feasibility Study for a Calumet National Area which was submitted to the National Park Service (NPS) after a period of public review. The NPS responded that the initial study had not met all of their assessment criteria and recommended a revision.

• CHP and the Field Museum revised the study and in May 2018 submitted the revised version to the National Park Service.

• In July 2018 the National Park Service responded that the revised feasibility study met all ten of their assessment criteria for feasibility.

• The next steps are to pursue recognition from Congress and to complete a management plan

http://calumetheritage.org/cnhastudy.html
Regional Heritage
CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

• As planned in the feasibility study, CHP has partnered with Calumet Collaborative and Field Museum to share the work needed to develop the heritage area.

• The Calumet National Heritage Area Coordinating Committee
  • Made up of an equal number of representatives from CHP and Calumet Collaborative with participation from Field Museum staff.

• Major Accomplishments
  • Creation and roll-out of the Calumet Heritage Area Brand.
  • Established a Calumet Heritage Area Events Calendar
  • Completion of the research and community input phases of a management plan.
  • Continued advocacy for a national heritage area with the region’s congressional representatives including trips to Washington D.C.
  • Continued maintenance of the heritage area website at https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/
Governance

• Outcomes from the CHP Board’s August 2018 retreat continued to emerge in 2020
  • New Mission and Vision Statement
  • Significant revisions to the bylaws
  • New policy on expectations of board members enacted
  • Initial development of a new membership policy
  • New committee structure and meeting schedule:
    • Bi-monthly full board meetings alternating with bi-monthly committee meetings
  • New Committees
    • Programming
    • Development
    • Heritage Area
    • Executive
  • Development of a plan for leadership succession
Governance

Goals for 2020

• Continued work on a robust fundraising and grant seeking program including a new membership program.

• The development of a Calumet author’s series

• Development of a programing plan for CHP and the heritage area.

• Formalization of the annual Calumet’s Most Endangered list

• Revamp of CHP website and launch of groups-related websites

• More events and activities!
Being a Heritage Area
Events for 2020

• Calumet Heritage Photo Contest
• Spring at Small Farms Presentation
  • By Kay Westhues in April
• Another July “picnic”
• 21st Annual Calumet Heritage Conference
  • October 17, 2020 at the Brauer Center for the Arts and Valparaiso University
• More Calumet Outdoors excursions
• The Second and third Calumet Curators exhibits in January and July
• And much more…
  • Author’s Series?
  • Heritage Area Designation!?
Thank you to all who have served on the board this year!

- Amanda Aguilera
- Kevin Brown
- Mark Bouman
- Karen Brozynski
- Benjamin Cox
- Gary Johnson
- David Klein
- Michael Longan
- Paul Petraitis
- Diane Pugh
- Tom Shepherd
- Kathleen Tobin
Being a Heritage Area

This year CHP matured into an organization with a greater capacity to support the Calumet Heritage Area.

We have seen the blossoming of seeds planted several years ago in the creation of the Calumet Curators and Calumet Outdoors Groups.

Our working relationship with the Calumet Collaborative and the Field Museum has matured and provides the basis for a management structure for a Calumet National Heritage Area.

We continue to expand the type and variety of events we both plan and support.

We have taken steps to develop policies and practices that ensure the sustainability of the organization into the future.

Thank you for a great year!

Michael Longan, President
CHP Board 2020

Karen Brozynski, President
Gary Johnson, Vice-President Indiana
Kevin Brown, Vice-President Illinois
David Klein, Treasurer
Kathy Tobin, Secretary
Amanda Aguilera
Mark Bouman
Benjamin Cox
Mike Longan
Diane Pugh
Tom Shepherd
Brad Miller*

Kirsten Markusic*

*New Members