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leihs.org



Mossback Photo Tradition

The traditional “Mossback” photo of island workers was taken on Labor Day at the end of the season for many years.

The Round House porch was a favorite place to assemble but there are photos that were taken on the porch of the Country House gift shop, formerly Oelschlager’s Hotel.

Over the years, islanders, cottagers and some frequent visitors joined in the annual Mossback photo.

This tradition that resurfaced for a short time in the 1980's, is a reminder that the Lake Erie Islands community finds success in working and celebrating together.

The Lake Erie Islands Historical Society Museum is planning to replicate the traditional Mossback group photo on Labor Day in 2026. Find more information at leihs.org on our Events Page.

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LEI's Historical Museum celebrates 40th in 2026

Four decades ago, The Lake Erie Islands Historical Society held its first Membership Meeting on September 27, 1986, to elect officers and a full board of trustees.

The local museum's origin story, however, does not begin there. We're giving you a glimpse back in time to the celebration, and the people, that formed the 501c3 non-profit that would become the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society.

June 6, 2027, will mark the 40th year the first museum opened.

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