Areas of Interest

Current as of June 1, 2023

Please note that this list is not all inclusive and may be subject to change. Please contact us if you have any questions about your donation!

Physical Communities

- Coloma
- Watervliet
- Stevensville
- Bridgman
- Lakeside
- New Buffalo
- Grand Beach
- Three Oaks
- Galien
- Buchanan
- Townships, census designated spaces, and unincorporated communities

Social Communities

- Women & Girls
- African American
- Asian American
- Native American*
- Latinx American
- LGTBQ+
- Disability
- Religious

Subject Specific

- Pioneer history
 - Log cabins & early housing
 - Frontier living & needs
 - Land grants & property deeds
- Agricultural
 - o Centennial & Sesquicentennial farms
 - Roadside stands & markets
 - Crops &livestock
 - Environmental & scientific developments
- Environmental
 - Lakes, rivers, & other waterways
 - Ecological biomes

- o Plants & animals
- Scientific advancements
- Gardening & foraging
- Law & Order
 - General county legal history
 - Lawyers & the Bar Association
 - Local laws & ordinances
 - o Courthouses
 - Police departments & other first responders
 - o Jails & arrest records, including photography
- Tourism & Recreation
 - Hotels & motels
 - Resorts, with special focus on minority or immigrant owned
 - o Amusement parks & entertainment facilities
 - Ecotourism (hiking, boating, fishing, etc.)
 - Agrotourism (u-picks, etc.)
 - Heritage Tourism (museums, historic sites, etc.)
 - Parks, including state, county, local, & private
 - Sports teams, professional & amateur
- Business
 - Home-based businesses (no MLMs)
 - Retail, big & small
 - Restaurant & food services, big & small
 - Manufacturing, big & small
 - Businesses that fall in other categories
 - Union & labor rights
 - Advertisements & promotional products
 - Products & packaging
 - Corporate files (all kinds)
 - Corporate-owned employee clubs (i.e. company baseball team)
- Community Groups
 - o Churches & communes,
 - Social groups, such as Freemason
 - Benevolent societies
 - Youth groups & clubs (i.e. scouts)
 - Membership associations
 - Social clubs (i.e. DANK)
 - Sports teams and similar clubs
- Education
 - Pre-school & daycares
 - K-12, including rural schools (1 3 room schoolhouses)
 - College & university,
 - Trade schools
 - Certification programs

- o Libraries
- Educational supply companies
- Medical:
 - Hospitals & private practice
 - Maternity wards
 - o Health department
 - Pandemics & epidemics (i.e. COVID-19, Spanish Flu, AIDS etc.)
 - o Pharmacy
 - Nursing
 - EMS & first responder
- Entertainment
 - Theater & concert venues
 - Musicians & musical groups
 - o Theater companies & actors (local or national)
- Events
 - o Blossomtime Activities (pageants, parades, etc.)
 - o Berrien County Youth Fair
 - Community Fairs & Festivals
 - o Senior PGA Tournament
 - o Art on the Bluff Event
 - Parades
 - o Holiday events (i.e. Kindle Your Christmas Spirit)
 - o Defunct events (i.e. St. Joseph Venetian Night)
- Home Front
 - o Civil War
 - o Spanish American War
 - o WW1
 - o WW2
 - o Korea
 - o Vietnam
 - Gulf War (1990)
 - o Balkans Conflict
 - Iraq/ Afghanistan
 - o Ukrainian invasion
- Military Conflicts**
 - o Spanish American War
 - o Korea
 - o Vietnam
 - Gulf War (1990)
 - o Balkans Conflict
 - o Iraq/ Afghanistan
 - o Ukrainian Invasion

- Military History**
 - Battalions, platoons, & special corps
 - Training camps
 - POW and internment camps
 - Minority-dominated battalions, platoons, & special corps

*Native American artifacts must be authenticated if not coming directly from tribal members, please see our not see Items Not Needed list for the full roster

**The BCHA does not collect random military items, please see our Items Not Needed list for what we are not accepting at this time