

**We need your help!**

**Our Heartfelt Thanks to...**

**Help Us Preserve History**



In preserving yet another noteworthy part of American History that took place in our area of the City of Port Huron, Michigan. It is our quest and goal to build a Memorial in honor and tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen. (Read their story on the inside of brochure)

**TARGET GOAL:**  
**\$65,500.00**

We have raised thus far an estimated \$27,000.00. Our thanks to the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and DTE Energy for their generous donations in helping us to move the bar closer to our goal; Port Huron, WE NEED your help in donating whatever you can to ensure that we make this claim: To build the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial here in our City of Port Huron.

**Donate Online at:** [divingwithapurpose.org](http://divingwithapurpose.org)  
**or mail donation to:**

500 Water Street, Port Huron, Michigan 48060

*\* Make check payable to: Community Foundation of St. Clair County*

**Committee Members:**

- Erik Denson and Jay Haigler, Co-Chairs
- Anita R. Ashford, Coordinating Lead
- Brent Gillette, Labor/AFL-CIO
- Dave McElroy, Asst. General Manger & Finance Director BWAT
- Juanita Taylor, Area Director, Michigan State NAACP
- Kevin Totty, Community Foundation of St. Clair County
- Ed Weichsler, Veterans Representative

Everyone who will find it in their heart to make the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial a reality for our City of Port Huron

Special thanks to:



Diving With a Purpose for bringing forth this Opportunity!

**DTE**  
Port Huron Schools  
Advocate. Innovate. Educate.

CITY OF PORT HURON  
MICHIGAN

**Community Foundation**  
of St. Clair County

PORT HURON MUSEUMS

# The Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Project

PORT HURON, MICHIGAN



# Tuskegee Airmen Project

During the middle years of World War II, Michigan was home to several African American air combat units including many graduates of the Tuskegee pilot training program. Upon completion of advanced training in Michigan, many Tuskegee Airmen were immediately deployed to combat support missions in Italy, North Africa and the Mediterranean. The primary aircraft used by the Tuskegee over Lake Huron was the P-39Q Airacobra. Two Tuskegee Airmen plane wrecks were discovered in the Michigan area. The P-39Q flown by Lt. Frank Moody was discovered in Lake Huron on April 11, 2014, seventy years to the day of the accident.



Lt. Frank Moody

A small team consisting of members from the Diving With a Purpose Maritime Archaeology Program (DWP) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) assembled in August 2015 to explore the Lake Huron site and document the wreckage. The artifacts from the crash site were spread across a large area illustrating the violence of the accident. Artifacts included the wing, landing gear, engine block, tail, propeller, cockpit door,



instrument panel, 50 caliber machine guns and hundreds of rounds that littered the sea floor. Seeing the Army Star on the aircraft wing brought tears to the team. The team laid a reef at the crash site in honor of Lt. Frank Moody and the Tuskegee Airmen that gave their lives for their country what they believed in even at a time when their country didn't believe in them.

In 2018, artifacts were recovered and are undergoing restoration and conservation. Artifacts will be displayed in the National Tuskegee Airmen Museum in Detroit. Shown below is the cockpit door.

DWP is dedicating a memorial to recognize the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII and the pilots that perished in accidents in the Port Huron, Michigan area. The purpose of this event is to bring national attention to a memorial to recognize the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII, the pilots that perished in accidents in the Port Huron, Michigan area. The memorial will be placed in the Flag Plaza in Port Huron, Michigan. The dedication is planned for August 2020.

#### Contacts:

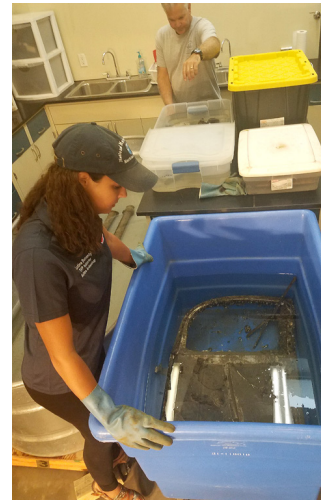
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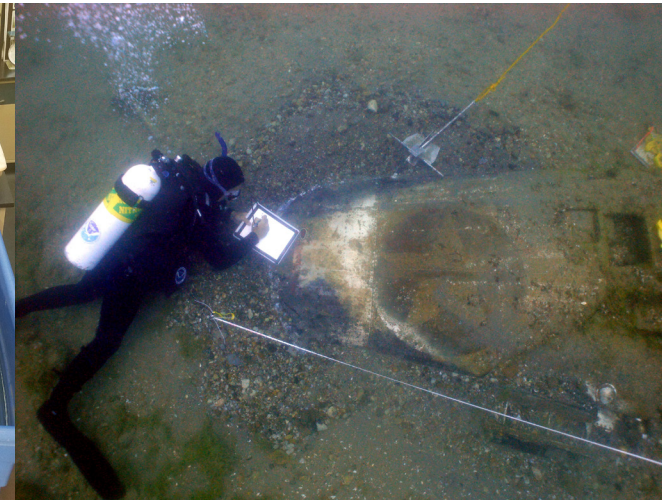
**Diving With a Purpose**  
[www.divingwithapurpose.org](http://www.divingwithapurpose.org)



*Proposed Location of Tuskegee Airmen Memorial*



*Cockpit Door*



*Wing with Army Corp Star*

**Memorial Fund Raising Campaign:**  
**[divingwithapurpose.org](http://divingwithapurpose.org)**

**To donate:**  
On the homepage of [divingwithapurpose.org](http://divingwithapurpose.org)  
find the donate button under  
"Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Ceremony"