

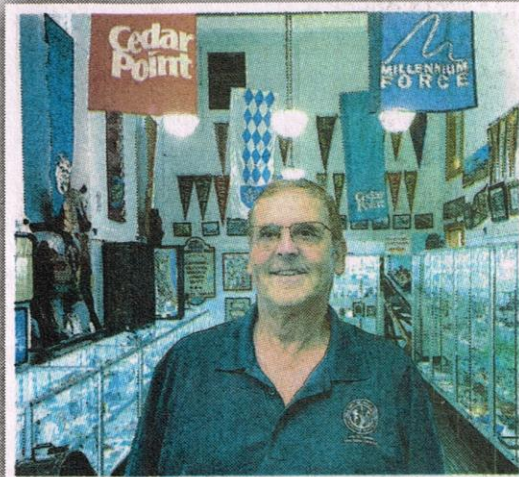
Enjoy A Nostalgic Ride In A Time Machine At The New Cedar Point Historical Museum

By Dan Brady, Feature Writer

Anyone who has ever been to Cedar Point probably has a special memory of the park: a favorite ride, a long-gone attraction like Jungle Larry's Safari Island, or maybe just relaxing on the beach.

Well, now you can relive those memories at the Downtown Sandusky Cedar Point Historical Museum. It's housed within the Sandusky Merry-Go-Round Museum in the former 1927 Sandusky Post Office – so you get to visit two great museums for one low admission price.

The Downtown Sandusky Cedar Point Historical Museum opened in December 2024. It has an incredible collection of artifacts, photographs, posters, pennants, postcards, souvenirs and other memorabilia, all related to the park. It's organized chronologically in display cases so that when you view the collection, it's like visiting the park in a time machine, exploring each era.



Museum Executive Director David Kaman stands with an impressive collection of artifacts and memorabilia showcasing the park's history.



Visitors can explore both the Downtown Sandusky Cedar Point Historical Museum and the Merry-Go-Round Museum—located in the historic 1927 Sandusky Post Office—with just one admission ticket.

There's classic ride signage, and even a car from the now-retired Snake River Falls ride. And with your admission ticket, you can take a spin on the fully restored Allan Herschell carousel with its beautiful hand-carved horses. A continuous video with rare film footage of the park helps you relive your fun days at The Amusement Park™ as well.

But the fact that the Downtown Sandusky Cedar Point Historical Museum exists at all is amazing. It's all because one man fell in love with Cedar Point. That man is David Kaman, the Executive Director of the museum. I sat down with him recently to learn about how the museum got started.

"I worked at Cedar Point for four summers during college in the early 1970s," he explained. "I had a unique position in that I worked from 11:30 at night until 8 in the morning and my sole job, along with another guy, was to change light bulbs."

That included changing light bulbs on the Space Spiral!

"We would come in at 11:30 and go out and change light bulbs all night long," added Kaman. "I saw a completely different perspective of Cedar Point in that I saw just the beauty of the park."

At that time, Kaman discovered that his father had a collection of Cedar Point postcards, so he started one too. Soon, he collected pennants as well. Eventually, he collected *anything* from Cedar Point and built up an extensive assortment.

A move from Bay Village to Sandusky in the fall of 2023 resulted in the entire collection going into

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storage until he could find a home for it – which turned out to be inside the Sandusky Merry-Go-Round Museum, at the invitation of Board Member Michael Young.

"It was the perfect marriage for someone who wanted to see Cedar Point memorabilia and also get a ride on the carousel," added Kaman.

Candy Frankowski, another Cedar Point collector and former employee, helped Kaman with organizing and displaying the collection and now serves as the museum's curator. Ken Miller, a local teacher and author of *Rolling Through the Years: A Cedar Point Atlas and Chronology*, came up with the idea of organizing the collection chronologically. And James Rogers, author of *Cedar Point Memories*, and his wife Janet donated their entire collection of rare Cedar Point items, including early 1900s fine china.

Although Cedar Point's parent company granted the museum permission to use its name, the museum is not financially supported or officially affiliated with Cedar Point. Donations of both funds and memorabilia are warmly welcomed.

The museum hosts rotating displays and special events year-round. So, plan on visiting more than



Travel back in time as you explore Cedar Point's story through rare artifacts, from early 1900s fine china to beloved park souvenirs.

once and spending a lot of time riding the nostalgic Cedar Point time machine.

The Downtown Sandusky Cedar Point Historical Museum is located inside the Merry-Go-Round Museum in beautiful downtown Sandusky at 301 Jackson Street. It operates during the Merry-Go-Round Museum's regular hours.



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