KONTIO AND HUTCHINS WIN TOP ANNUAL HONORS
FROM SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAY 30, 2014 -- Marsha Kontio has received the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's top-honor Charles J. Lorenz Award of Achievement for 2014, and Steve Hutchins has won the Society’s Volunteer Of The Year Award.

The Lorenz Award was established by the Society in 1997 to honor the memory of Charles Lorenz, who gave generously of his time, talent, money and energy in the formation and development of this organization. Winners are selected each year by a special Society committee, recognizing distinguished leadership in fulfilling the Historical Society’s mission to "help the community understand its past and use its history to shape its future and preserve its quality of life".

Kontio, a Saugatuck resident, is a former Society President and Board member. She was cited for her wide-ranging service to Society activities, including historian, museum volunteer, walking tour organizer and tour leader, Douglas Social bus tour narrator, Tuesday Talk and monthly meeting program MC and presenter.

The Volunteer Of The Year Award honors outstanding service to the Society. Candidates are nominated by standing committee chairs, and winners are selected by majority vote of the Board.

Hutchins’ selection for this award recognizes his efforts in managing the Society’s two landmark facilities, the Pump House Museum and Old School House History Center, overseeing maintenance, event scheduling, set-up for meetings and events, ordering supplies and coordinating gardening experts to ensure that the grounds are well-kept. A Douglas resident, he also serves as Society Board member.

The Historical Society was founded in 1986 with seventy Charter members, "to discover, procure and preserve whatever may relate to the civil, religious, social, cultural and natural history of Saugatuck, Douglas and surrounding area". As a volunteer-based, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization with membership open to all, the Society roster now exceeds 400 individual, family and corporate members. Activities are funded by contributions from members, friends and grants, and from the proceeds of special Society events. For more information about the Society and its many volunteer opportunities, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.

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Saugatuck's Marsha Kontio (left) and Douglas resident Steve Hutchins win top Historical Society honors.