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WINTHERS, SORENSEN WIN TOP ANNUAL HONORS
FROM SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAY 10, 2013 -- Sally Withers has received the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's top-honor Charles J. Lorenz Award of Achievement for 2013, and Cynthia Sorensen has won the Society's Volunteer Of The Year Award. Both are Saugatuck residents.

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".

Withers, a former Society Board Secretary, was cited for her wide-ranging and freely given assistance in many Society activities, including: designer of both the 2012 edition and the soon to be published 2013 *Historical Chronicle* "newspapers"; member of the "Save the Barrel" committee; designer of the Society's *Around the Village Table* award-winning cookbook; a long-time member of the Museum Design Team; producer of the school locker display and graphics in the "Back-in-Time" school room exhibit at the Old School House History Center; 2010 Ox-Bow Heritage Festival Co-Chair and Design Chair for 2011 Douglas Heritage Festival; designer and producer of the last two Membership Directories; designer of posters and logos designer for many SDHS projects and programs.

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

Sorensen's selection for this award recognizes her many years of active participation as a Historical Society volunteer, always willing to stuff envelopes, mail out newsletters, make cookies, and in general be of help to anyone who is in need. More recently she has worked with the archives team of Mary Voss and Ken Kutzel and devotes Mondays to the good of the Saugatuck Douglas Historical Society. For several years her name has come to the forefront as a candidate recipient and this was her year to be honored.

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 Sally Winthers (left) and Cynthia Sorensen win top Historical Society honors.