

# SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER

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## MARY VOSS, BILL/NANCY WOODS WIN TOP HONORS FROM SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER

SEPT. 13, 2019 --Mary Voss has received the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center's top-honor Charles J. Lorenz Award of Achievement for 2019, while Bill and Nancy Woods were named the Center's Volunteer(s) Of The Year. Voss resides in Holland, and the Woods make their home in Douglas.

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

Voss, who was recognized as Volunteer of the Year in 2011, was cited for exceptional leadership in caring for our historical treasures in the Archives Research Center and art/artifact collections. For more than 15 years she has brought a focus on best practices in caring for collections, seeking out professional development for herself and the SDHC's team of volunteers. With SDHC's 2018 "Year of Collections" project, she guided relocating the collections into the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Old School House, and mentored interns and volunteers. In addition to her long service in the archives she has also served on SDHC's board of directors and helped to fundraise for archives and preservation.

The Volunteer Of The Year Award honors outstanding service to the History Center. Candidates are nominated by standing committee chairs, and winners are chosen by majority vote of the Board, which this year opted for a rare joint husband/wife selection.

Nancy Woods has long served on the collections committee and worked in the archives caring for historic building and property records. This summer she processed new materials given by Dawn Schumann from her and George Schumann's decades of historic preservation advocacy at the Lakeshore. Nancy has also played an essential role in development, putting her expertise in higher education administration to use in reviewing grant applications. That builds on her previous work as a SDHC Board Member and development committee leader. In addition, she volunteers at the History Center and Museum as a docent opening the building and greeting visitors throughout the summer.

Bill Woods is SDHC's longest serving volunteer in the Old School House galleries, enhancing that mission with his zeal and talent for recruiting volunteers, as well as compiling stats on visitor attendance and analyzing trends to document the Center's community impact and provide critical feedback for future improvement.

The S-D History Center was founded as the Historical Society 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 Center now exceeds 700 individual, family and corporate members. Activities are funded by contributions from members, friends and grants, and from the proceeds of special events. For more information about the History Center and its many volunteer opportunities, visit [www.MySDHistory.org](http://www.MySDHistory.org).

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TWO PHOTOS ATTACHED SEPARATELY (see jpegs "Voss" and "Woods")

Caption: Mary Voss, Bill & Nancy Woods honored by S-D History Center