

**Governor John B. Swainson Award  
Previous Recipients**

**2015**

**Beth Anne Eckerle – Emmet County**

Communicated the history of Emmet County, including through publication of the *Essence of Emmet* magazine

**Karl Gorham – Livingston County**

Saved the hand-built fieldstone entrance gate pillars from the Maybury Tuberculosis Sanatorium and relocated them to Maybury State Park

**Gerald Grieve – Kalkaska County**

Identified and marked 226 graves of Civil War veterans in Kalkaska County, and continued his work with other counties

**LeighAnn Mikesell – Muskegon County**

Worked to rehabilitate Muskegon's Veterans Memorial Park that was built in 1934 as a tribute to World War I casualties

**Susan Passamani – Iron County**

Documented the restoration of the 1890 Iron County Courthouse and created a history room in the courthouse to educate students and local organizations

**2013**

**Michele Anderson, Wayne Westland Community Schools**

Developed World War II Oral History Project

**James Brennan, City of Port Huron**

Documentation of Michigan Historical Marker Program

**Guy Forstrom, Breitung Township, Dickinson County**

Restoration of a fire truck used by the township in 1940-1954

## 2012

**Jennifer Boardman, Michigan County of Appeals**

Efforts to preserve Belle Isle Aquarium

**Nancy F. Brown, State Bar of Michigan**

Contributions to keeping Michigan Legal Milestones Program alive

**Joann Germinder, Department of Defense**

Guest Curator at Michigan Historical Museum for exhibit, "Follow the Girls! 100 Years of Girl Scouting."

## 2011

**George Lasater, Charlevoix County**

Research and preservation of history of Charlevoix County's contribution to World War II

**Thomas P. Russow, Port of Monroe**

Restoration of the River Raisin Battlefield, Port of Monroe

**Erik J. Wilson, City of Plainwell**

Redevelopment of abandoned paper mill, Plainwell

## 2009

**Danny H. Hagen, City of Eastpointe**

Led the restoration efforts to restore an original Model T fire truck

## 2008

**Richard Cook, Environmental Protection Agency**

**Kelly Jones, Washtenaw County Road Commission**

**Roy Townsend, Washtenaw County Road Commission**

Delhi Bridge Rehabilitation in Scio Township, Ann Arbor

**Albert J. Meshkin, Laketown Township, Allegan County**

Efforts to save the Felt Mansion, Laketown Township

## **2008 (continued)**

### **Todd Sampson, Michigan Department of Human Services**

Preservation and telling of the stories of Michigan's African American veterans

### **Cal Taylor & AuSable Parks and Recreation Committee, AuSable Township**

AuSable historic cemetery cleanup and renovation

## **2006**

### **Dale Iman, City of Southfield**

Restoration of Code House homestead and grounds

## **2005**

### **Nancy Darga, Township and City of Northville**

Assembled historic archive and registered endangered historic sites

### **Tom Wibert, East Lansing Police Department**

Documented, shared and educated others about the history of East Lansing Police Department

### **Kendall Wingrove, Michigan House of Representatives**

Contributed time to 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony of the D-Day invasion; newsletter with remembrances of World War II; series of articles about the State Capitol's history; celebration of the Capitol's 125th anniversary

## **2004**

### **Richard Blachford, City of Newaygo**

Revitalization of multiple historic resources in Newaygo

## **2003**

### **Tony Angelosanto, Plymouth Police Department**

Research and restoration of York Street Cemetery

### **Vicki Barnard, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality**

Rediscovery and memorialization of State Salt Well #1, drilled by Douglass Houghton

## **2003 (continued)**

### **Donald E. Riel, Michigan Department of Transportation**

Preservation, documentation and education of others about Michigan Railroad History

## **2002**

### **Ralph Raffaelli, Houghton Police Department**

Collected, preserved and shared historic photographs of Houghton's people, places and things

### **Frank Rembisz, Wayne County Office on Aging**

Started the Eloise and Wayne County General Hospital Museum and a Friends of Eloise group to preserve the memory of Eloise, and shared his knowledge with many

## **2001**

### **Jeannette Dusseljee, Almena Township, Van Buren County**

Coordination and restoration of historic Almena Township Hall

### **Margaret Janose, Cannon Township, Kent County**

Championed maintaining historic integrity of local museum, grew historical society membership and preserved local records

## **2000**

### **Nancy Powell, Marenisco School District**

Researched and produced history of Marenisco Township

## **1999**

### **Kerry Chartkoff, Legislative Council Facilities Agency**

Role in preservation of the Capitol Battle Flag Collection

### **Ellis N. Olson, City of Cheboygan**

Spent a lifetime of discovering, preserving, and interpreting the history of the Cheboygan area

## **1998**

### **James Katalin, Michigan Department of Corrections**

Leadership and exemplary work in preserving the Champion #4 shaft-rockhouse at Painesdale

## **1997**

### **Phillip Schertzing, Michigan State Police**

Obtained interviews, diaries, news clippings and other memorabilia which he used to write the history of the Michigan State Police and educate new recruits

### **Tom Wiczorek, City of Ionia**

Led numerous preservation efforts that included repaving brick streets; installation of historically accurate streetlights; and, restoration of the downtown buildings

## **1996**

### **Mary Crowl, Michigan Department of Transportation**

Recognized an uncovered plank road and rearranged the work so the road could be studied and preserved

### **Dean Sandell, Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Preservation of cultural resources on Lime Island and assisted in the development of the Island Explorer Water Trail

### **Barry Waara, Oakland County Central Services**

Preservation and maintenance of Oakland County public records to provide public access in an atmosphere designed to encourage the public to use the facility and the records