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For Immediate Release

## UPPER PENINSULA HISTORY AWARDS PRESENTED TO MARY M. JUNE AND GREAT LAKES SHIPWRECK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUNISING, Mich.— **Mary M. June and the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society won top honors at the Historical Society of Michigan’s 67th annual Upper Peninsula History Conference** for their outstanding efforts to preserve and promote the history of the Upper Peninsula.

**June, who hails from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., received the Charles Follo Award**, which acknowledges the work of an individual. The **Superior Award**, which recognizes the achievements of historical societies, museums and other history-related organizations, **was awarded to the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society**, which operates two museum sites: the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum at the Whitefish Point Light Station and the U.S. Weather Bureau Building at Soo Locks Park in Sault Sainte Marie.



**Historical Society of Michigan President Paul M. Keep (left) presents the Charles Follo Award to Mary M. June (right) of Sault Ste. Marie.**

The awards were presented during the Society’s Upper Peninsula History Awards Banquet that took place at the American Legion Hall in Munising, Mich., on **June 25, 2016**. For more information about the Historical Society of Michigan and its award programs, visit [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org) or call (517) 324-1828.

### **THE 2016 CHARLES FOLLO AWARD**

The Charles Follo Award was established in 1979 and is named in honor of Charles Follo, a school teacher from Escanaba who worked to establish historical societies and promote the history of the Upper Peninsula. This award is presented annually by the Historical Society of Michigan to the individual who has made the most outstanding

contribution to the preservation and promotion of Upper Peninsula history.

This year, the Society awarded the Charles Follo Award to Mary M. June, who has made important and wide-ranging contributions to the cause of U.P. history over a span of more than 20 years. June has served for many years as president of the Chippewa County Historical Society and has served on Sault Ste. Marie's Historic Development Commission and on its Historic Structures Management Committee. She has helped renovate exhibits at the Soo Locks Visitors Center, written a history of the

Chippewa County Historical Society and led historic preservation efforts in Sault Ste. Marie.

### **THE 2016 SUPERIOR AWARD**

Established by the Historical Society of Michigan in 2006, the Superior Award recognizes historical societies, museums and other historical organizations that preserve and advance Upper Peninsula history.

The 2016 Superior Award recipient, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, was founded in 1978 by a group of divers, teachers and educators to explore shipwrecks in eastern Lake Superior near Whitefish Point. The Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society produces a



**The 2016 Superior Award was presented by Historical Society of Michigan President Paul M. Keep (left) and accepted by the development officer of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, Sean Ley (right).**

newsletter, videos, booklets and commissioned works of maritime art. Its restoration projects at Whitefish Point have resulted in the preservation of numerous historic structures at the site, including the 1861 lightkeepers quarters, the 1923 lookout tower, the 1923 surfboat house and crews' quarters building, and the 1937 fog signal building. Using its research vessel David Boyd, the society locates and documents historic shipwrecks. Each year, more than 60,000 visitors tour its museums to learn about Great Lakes maritime history.

The Historical Society of Michigan is our state's oldest cultural organization, founded in 1828 by territorial governor Lewis Cass and explorer Henry Schoolcraft. A nongovernmental nonprofit, the Society focuses on publications, conferences, education, awards and recognition programming, and support for local history organizations to preserve and promote Michigan's rich history.

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For high-resolution photos of the winners, please contact the Historical Society of Michigan.