

Alexander Macomb Historical Award
Individual



Year Award Given: 2016
Awarded to: Norm and Dianne Gibson – Richmond, Macomb, MI
Nominated by: Lori Nye
Presented Where: MCHA Annual Meeting – Sterling Heights Library
– April 30, 2016
Presented By: Macomb County Heritage Alliance

If you love history and have not had a chance to visit the Richmond Area Historical & Genealogical Society (RAHGS) Village, please put it on your bucket list. It is a very special place! A big reason it is so special is due to the amazing efforts of two extraordinary people – Norm and Dianne Gibson.

Norm is a retired teacher from the Lakeshore Public Schools in St. Clair Shores, MI, where he taught shop, history and a number of other courses over his career. Norm's craftsmanship talents have been of great assistance to the RAHGS village where he has been instrumental in the preservation, conservation and maintenance of the buildings, grounds and accessories that make up the village. Within the last few years, Norm was made significant contributions in the repainting of the Columbus Train Depot (located in RAHGS' Historic Village), the installation of train tracks, a crossing signal and additional train-related artifacts for inclusion in the village. With the assistance of other volunteers, Norm also serves as the developer/creator of many museum displays. Using his wonderful carpentry skills, Norm has designed/built most of the display cases utilized in the RAHGS museum. Norm co-authored the book: Images of America: Richmond Area with Lori Nye and Dianne provided superb editing skills for the project. Norm has also served as a long-term director (2009-Present) of the historical society.

Dianne is a retired registered nurse. Using her exceptional organizational talents, and with the assistance of their son, Dianne has been influential in developing a museum collection management system where all artifacts (donated and loaned to RAGHS) are documented and tracked – a monumental task! Dianne also serves as the RAHGS Treasurer which includes being responsible for all aspects of the treasury, including banking and reports. She also serves on the RAHGS Genealogical Committee and has been very active in many other aspects of the society.

Norm and Dianne are also active members of the American Civil War Shooters Association. The ACWSA is dedicated to preserving Civil War history through the sport of Civil War firearm marksmanship competitions. Competitors dress in authentic Civil War era uniforms and use original or reproduction Civil War firearms.

Because they both do and give so much to RAHGS and the preservation of history in Macomb County, it is with great regard that they receive the 2016 Alexander Macomb Historical Award for Individuals.