



NEWS RELEASE

DIGITAL PHOTOS & CONTACT:

Joe Passineau, WCHF President

jpassine@uwsp.edu 715-677-4047

Earl Spangenberg, WCHF Executive Secretary

espangen@uwsp.edu 715-3451-5127

This news release is also available at the Web at

www.wchf.org

Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame Celebrates 30th Anniversary
Germain, Horvath and Reed are 2014 Inductees.
Ceremonies Set for May 3, 2014, in Stevens Point.

The Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame (WCHF) will celebrate its 30th Induction Ceremony by honoring the chief architect and spokesman for the Wisconsin Natural and Scientific Areas Program, a land and water conservationist who helped create the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame and a much loved outdoors writer and journalist who left indelible marks on the environment will be inducted into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame this year.

The trio will join 80 other inductees to the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame in ceremonies at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 3, at the Sentry Theater in Stevens Point. The public is invited.

Clifford E. Germain was born in 1924 in Merrill, Wisconsin and received a BS in Zoology in 1949 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While serving in a variety of position with Wisconsin conservation Department (WCD), he inventoried and purchased thousands of acres of wetlands on behalf o the state including some that would become State Wildlife Areas. The data collected and the analyzed by Mr. Germain and his employees formed the basis of the natural community portion of the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory Database, Wisconsin's part of a nationwide system that houses information on locations of rare plants, rare animals, and natural communities. Under Mr. Germain's guidance, the State Natural Areas program grew with purpose, from 48 sites comprising 10,000 acres in 1966 to 211 natural areas totaling more than 50,000 acres upon his retirement after 37 years of service.

William John Horvath was born on a farm in southeast Wisconsin without electricity and plumbing in 1938. He graduated in 1961 from what is now University of

Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a degree in Conservation, followed by a Master's degree from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. In 1972 Horvath went to work for the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) as the first Midwest Regional Director with responsibility for coordinating the work in conservation districts in eight mid-western states. He retired from the NACD in 2002, and promptly went back under contract directing the organization's forestry programs office. He retired for a second time in 2005. Over his many decades of conservation work, he has been involved with education, training, research, public policy legislation, and leadership with respect to wise use and management of natural resources of the State of Wisconsin and across the nation.

Jay Reed was born in Nelson, Wisconsin in 1928 and was an avid outdoorsman from the time he was in grade school. After his discharge from the US Army after World War II, he began his career in journalism in Rockford, Illinois. During the years, his career as an outdoors journalist with the Milwaukee Journal was interrupted when he was recalled to active duty during the Korean War or attached as a journalist to combat units in Vietnam. Through his writing, he played the role of a mediator and interpreter on behalf of hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts. He articulated the goals, concerns and aspirations of the millions of Wisconsin citizens for whom outdoor activities were important. In all he wrote hunting and fishing columns for a total of 39 years for millions of Wisconsin citizens.

Tributes to the inductees will be given at 10 a.m., at Sentry Theater, located at the Sentry Insurance Headquarters, 1800 North Point Drive. A 9 a.m. coffee will precede the program. A luncheon at noon at the Holiday Inn concludes the day's activities. Luncheon reservations cost \$25 and can be made by calling 715-346-4992, the telephone number for the Schmeckle Reserve Visitors Center, where the Conservation Hall of Fame is located.

Joe Passineau, WCHF's new president stated that he was "pleased that two of the inductees this year, Cliff Germain and Bill Horvath, are able to be at the recognition ceremony on May 3rd. The public is invited to share in this our 30th celebration by joining WCHF board members and friends to hear the presentations by colleagues and friends and to learn more about the fascinating history of conservation in Wisconsin."

To learn more about the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame and its many inductees, go to wchf.org