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Please do your part to honor our conservation heroes by renewing your membership and by inviting others to join the WCHF.

Mark your calendars:

The 32nd annual Induction Ceremony will be held
Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Sentry Theater, Stevens Point.

Renew Your Affiliate Membership

If you made a donation last year – you are an Affiliate Member of the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. Continue your membership by donating again this year.

- Your Affiliate Membership is important!
- Affiliate memberships make up half of our annual budget.

Your membership means that you can take pride in supporting the important educational and recognition program of the Hall of Fame. Think about it - and plan on giving the Hall of Fame your support every year.

Become part of Wisconsin's conservation history by contributing to the **Conservation Hall of Fame Foundation** with your membership. Help commemorate those who labored in years past to ensure the future of Wisconsin's abundant and diverse natural resources. Keep alive the ideas of those whose foresight preserved our environment.

My tax-deductible donation is enclosed: *I would like to become a Conservation Hall of Fame Affiliate Member*

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Name (individual/group) _____
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Please enclose check (see membership levels at left) and mail to:
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Schmeckle Reserve - UW-SP
2419 N. Point Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Thank you!



Spring 2016

Volume 22, Issue 1

New Leaf

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame

www.wchf.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT



One More Day
“There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migrations of birds, the ebb and flow of the tides, the folded bud ready for the spring. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature – the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter.” Rachel Carson, The Sense of Wonder.

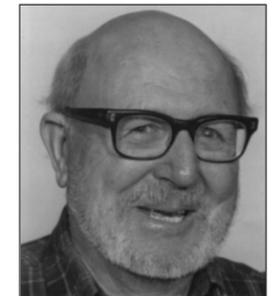
These words of Rachel Carson capture perfectly the rhythms of nature and the “Sense of Wonder” that pulls us outdoors and nurtures our soul.

Captivated by nature, I have also been drawn to those who have written well about nature and its magic. Carson, Muir, Leopold and Olson are among the best...and I often wish I had had the opportunity to

(continued on page 4)



Noel Jefferson Cutright



LeRoy Joseph Lintereur

Noel Jefferson Cutright and LeRoy Joseph Lintereur – Our Newest Inductees –

Ceremonies set April 30, 2016 in Stevens Point

2016 INDUCTEE

**Noel Jefferson Cutright
1943 - 2013**

Noel Joseph Cutright was a well-known and beloved Wisconsin ornithologist who devoted his life to bird conservation and citizen science. In a State recognized for its conservation leadership, Dr. Cutright worked tirelessly both professionally and in his private life to help restore, improve and protect our ecosystems at both a global and local level.

He was born and grew up in southern Ohio on Fort Hill State Memorial, an Ohio State Historical Society property near Sinking Spring. He attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and was awarded Masters and Ph.D. degrees from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Noel lived for 36 years in rural Ozaukee County near the Cedarburg Bog with wife Kate.

Cutright worked for We Energies as senior terrestrial ecologist for 29 years until he retired in 2006, and he continued to serve We Energies as its sole emeritus staffer until his death. According to executives at We Energies, throughout his career, Noel was the environmental conscience of the organization.

He was a stalwart supporter and critical thinker in the development of state management plans to restore populations of osprey, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, trumpeter swans and bluebirds. He was instrumental in moving restoration programs forward, often urging program leaders to think “outside of the box” in eliciting private and public support. He was a vocal supporter of the State Natural Areas Program because he recognized that these sites offered high-quality refuges for migratory and breeding songbirds, as well as a direct link for the people of Wisconsin to their natural heritage.

As a long-time advisor to WDNR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Noel Jefferson Cutright *continued*

on the ecology and management of Wisconsin's breeding birds, Dr. Cutright was one of the leaders in establishing the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative to address the full spectrum of bird conservation in Wisconsin. Additionally, he helped promote the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas, served on the Atlas Steering Committee, and was senior editor of the landmark *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Wisconsin*, published in 2006. At the time of his death, he was serving on the Steering Committee for the second Wisconsin Breeding Birds Atlas which began its field work in 2015. His work did not stop there. He tirelessly promoted and participated in the Federal Breeding Bird Survey for 30+ years.

Twice president of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, he was the founder of the Riveredge Bird Club in Newburg, Wisconsin and the Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory in Belgium, Wisconsin. He was instrumental in the creation of the Bird City Wisconsin program, which has now recognized 87 communities statewide.

Neotropical migratory bird conservation was an issue near and dear to Dr. Cutright's heart. In that vein, he helped launch the Milwaukee County Avian Migration Monitoring Partnership. In his final years, he realized his dream of establishing a bird observatory in Wisconsin when he successfully led the first effort in the nation to convert a former golf course into a migratory bird preserve.

Perhaps best known for his extensive work in ornithology, he was involved in numerous other environmental efforts throughout the energy industry as well as in state and local conservation communities. Perhaps most importantly, he leaves a legacy as an educator, with a conservation ethic that was always up-front and conveyed to his audience through his vast knowledge and deep love of the natural world, inspiring countless new "conservationists" over his long career. He was well-known to many state residents as one of the

voices on "The Larry Mieller Show" on Wisconsin Public Radio in a holiday call-in program about birds for many, many years.

According to Jim Reinartz, director of the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Field Station in Saukville, Wisconsin, "Noel's was consistently the voice to remind the organizations that their primary mission was to preserve their natural assets."

The above is based on nomination material developed by Mr. Carl W. Schwartz and Ms Bettie R. Harriman of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.

2016 INDUCTEE

LeRoy Joseph Lintereur 1920 - 1995

LeRoy Joseph Lintereur was born on November 22, 1920, in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. As a boy, LeRoy was introduced to hunting by his father. He kept a journal almost daily for over 30 years where he recorded and solidified his natural history observations and personal reflections.

LeRoy served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Later, he enrolled at St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin and then transferred to the UW-Madison where he studied biology and wildlife ecology and completed his degree. In 1952 he was hired by the Wisconsin Conservation Department in Burlington, as a game manager. He was reassigned to Wausaukee in 1956, and finally to Marinette in 1958. While at Marinette he was promoted to Area Game Manager where he was in charge of wildlife programs and staff in Marinette, Oconto, Shawano, Florence and Menomonie counties.

The Area Game Manager's responsibilities were many and varied, and required the skills of a biologist, ecologist, botanist, sociologist, policeman, real estate broker, land appraiser, administrator, supervisor, farmer, surveyor, engineer, educator and politician. Lintereur handled the tasks with ease.

During the time he worked for the WDNR, LeRoy dedicated his life to

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Welcome to Three New Organizational Members

Much of the success of the WCHF can be attributed to the founding 20 Organizational Members who created the Foundation 30 years ago and their representatives on the Board of Directors. To recognize the contributions of other conservation organizations, and to strengthen the WCHF, the Board of Directors last year invited three organizations to become Voting members. Each excels in its focus on Conservation. Together they will strengthen the Hall of Fame by helping us to better represent the diversity of conservation efforts in Wisconsin.



International Crane Foundation

Founded in 1973, the International Crane Foundation (ICF) works worldwide to conserve cranes and the ecosystems, watersheds, and flyways on which they depend. ICF addresses the health of landscapes that sustain not only cranes, but also people and a wealth of biological diversity. ICF maintains a 250-acre campus in Baraboo, Wisconsin that hosts a "species bank" of over 120 rare and threatened cranes and where more than 20,000 people visit annually. Our campus is an interactive classroom featuring live crane exhibits, an education center, breeding facilities, research library, miles of nature trails, and a global center for conservation leadership, training, and empowerment. ICF sustains a network of specialists and community leaders working to create models that demonstrate real conservation solutions based on long-term commitments in over 50 countries on five continents. Cranes truly are ambassadors for conservation - serving as flagships for some of the most important places on Earth.



WISCONSIN
SOCIETY for
ORNITHOLOGY

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology is a volunteer, nonprofit organization. Our mission is to encourage the enjoyment, study and conservation of Wisconsin's birds. We provide opportunities for all people to enjoy resident and migratory birds, while being a leading steward of and ambassador for Wisconsin birds. WSO sponsors birding field trips throughout the year, hosts an annual birding convention, offers research grants, and serves as an informational resource center on bird-related issues. WSO publishes a quarterly scholarly journal, the Passenger Pigeon, along with a monthly newsletter. Membership exceeds 1,400 from across the United States and around the world.

WSO began in 1939. The decades of 1940s through 1960s focused on avian education, research, and conservation practices. Moving into the 70s, 80s and 90s, our focus included reducing hazards to birds, expanding the number of scientific papers and reports, and taking the lead in developing and publishing the state's first breeding bird atlas. We are currently a key partner in repeating the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas project, which will allow us to identify and document bird population changes in Wisconsin over the last 20 years.



Gathering Waters

- Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts' mission is to: help land trusts, landowners and communities protect the places that make Wisconsin special. These lands provide incredible value to all of us.

- Thousands of jobs and billions of dollars are generated annually through tourism, outdoor recreation, forestry and agriculture.
- Residents have cleaner air and water because of protected wetlands and forests.
- Plants and animals are more resilient to changing conditions.
- Outdoor places and adventures are available close to home, accessible to people from all walks of life, ages and interests.

To help ensure these benefits for all of us, forever, we strengthen land trusts by:

- Ensuring funding for land conservation projects remains a priority in the state legislature.
- Providing services, tools, resources, and trainings for land trusts.
- Fostering a network for the statewide land trust community so ideas and best practices may be shared.

2015 Inductee David Ladd Honored by Natural Resources Foundation

Since David Ladd could not attend the WCHF Induction Ceremony, the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin hosted a special reception in Dodgeville on Friday, July 10, 2015 to honor him.

Executive Director Ruth Oppedahl welcomed Dave's family and friends by saying "Dave's been with us since the beginning, so nearly 30 years. The work he has done is really something special that I think we could all learn from."

Friends and colleagues who spoke at the ceremony included Ron Semmann, Foundation Board member; Jim McCaulley, Wisconsin Conservation Congress member and Iowa County Conservationist; and Mike Foy, Wildlife Biologist for the WDNR. They all agreed that Dave "has a true commitment to helping people become better citizens and conservationists."



Speakers at the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin reception for Dave Ladd included: (L-R) Jim McCaulley, Dave Ladd, Ron Semmann and Ruth Oppedahl

LeRoy Joseph Lintereur *continued from page 2*

learning about and caring for the natural world around him. As an administrator, he acquired critical habitat for wildlife and rare plant communities. As a resource manager, he educated the public about the habitat purpose and proper care. He led countless tours, delivered numerous lectures, and wrote a weekly newspaper column for the Marinette newspaper from 1968 to 1985 tallying more than 700 articles on the natural history of northeastern Wisconsin. As his career unfolded, LeRoy found his niche in the community by sharing his knowledge with anyone who had an interest. He taught classes, gave seminars, led field tours, contributed information on specimens collected to museums and herbariums, ceaselessly wrote letters to editors, and conducted surveys. He also founded the Wisconsin-Michigan Chappie Rapids Audubon Society based in Marinette.

Throughout his career, Lintereur was especially active in promoting protection and preservation of wetlands. Grounded in this profound interest of the natural world, he worked to create an awareness of Green Bay west shore marshes located in Marinette and Oconto counties, and to establish a State land acquisition project to protect them. His actions prevented the destruction of this estuary-like wetland system which is one of the most extensive in the Great Lakes.

LeRoy's efforts to protect critical habitat led to establishment of the 90-acre Seagull Bar Wildlife Area in 1959, and the 1,300-acre Lake Noquebay Wildlife Area in 1960. But the crown jewel of his habitat protection efforts was put in place when the Green Bay West Shores project was formally established by the WDNR in 1962 with a land acquisition goal of 13,933 acres.

Lintereur was especially concerned about having a strong biological basis for determining wetlands classification. As one of five members of a committee that drafted the Marinette County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Number 24 in 1967, he was instrumental in having a wetland defined as an "area where groundwater is at or near the surface much of the year and where any segment of plant cover is deemed an aquatic according to N. C. Fassett's Manual of Aquatic Plants." This was an especially broad classification for defining wetlands and greatly increased areas over which the Marinette County and the WDNR could extend protection.

The Marinette County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance was soon put to a test in a county wetlands violation case (Just vs. Marinette County) that became a state and nationally recognized conservation hallmark. Ultimately, the case was ruled on by the Wisconsin Supreme Court and the County's enforcement action was upheld. The case has provided the basis for wetland protection in Wisconsin ever since, despite numerous court challenges. The ruling established precedent-setting case law for Wisconsin and ultimately preserved tens of thousands of wetland acres in the State. It continues to protect more threatened wetlands each year.

His open acceptance created an aura where people always felt free to talk and ask about any topic. His lifetime achievements in seeking and sharing biological and ecological information with the public while acquiring, protecting and enhancing natural resources in northeastern Wisconsin meet the highest standards of his profession.

The above is based on nomination material prepared by Mr. David Gjestson.

Highlights of the 2015 Induction Ceremony

The 2015 Induction Ceremony held at the Sentry Theater in Stevens Point was another resounding success. Friends and family of the three inductees, Ron Koshoshek, Dave Ladd and Gene Roark enjoyed the festive reception, the induction presentations, and a luncheon at the nearby Sentry World complex. We were especially fortunate to have two of the inductees, Ron Koshoshek and Gene Roark, present to accept their award and to enjoy the tributes of colleagues and the unveiling of the recognition plaques. State legislative citations were also presented to the inductees by Senator Julie Lassa and Representative Katrina Shankland. For health reasons, David Ladd could not attend.



Attendees welcomed by WCHF President Joe Passineau

Speakers for the Inductees included the following:

Induction of Ronald Koshoshek

Becky Glass, Deputy Director, Labor Network for Sustainability
Tom Dawson, Assistant Attorney General, former Wisconsin Public Intervenor
Tom Quinn, Executive Director, Wisconsin Farmers Union

Induction of Eugene Roark

Mary Jean Huston, Wisconsin State Director, The Nature Conservancy
Nancy Bozek, Executive Director, Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

Induction of David Ladd

Ron Semmann, Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
Ruth Oppedahl, Executive Director, Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
Jim McCaulley, Wisconsin Conservation Congress, Iowa County Conservationist



Ronald Koshoshek addresses audience.



Senator Lassa and Representative Shankland presenting Legislative Citations.



David Ladd's Induction Speakers Ron Semmann and Ruth Oppedahl.



Gene Roark celebrates with his wife and family.



Gene Roark with Speakers Mary Jean Huston and Nancy Bozek.



Ronald Koshoshek with Induction Plaque



Guests enjoying Luncheon at Sentry World

Check It Out!

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN68KnsnDoywXTkWlsx3hwxXqf_6Kk8Qz
<https://plus.google.com/photos/118406072544392549110/albums/6145016958415228481>



President's notes from page 1 continued

share a day in the woods, by the sea or on the mountain with them. Enchanted by their music, I have walked in their footsteps and paddled the lakes they loved. Are you, too, drawn to this magic? And what can we do with "one more day" under its spell?

This year we honor Noel Cutright and his legacy -- his love of bird song, his passion for knowing and sharing, and his wisdom in blending profession with avocation. We also honor LeRoy Lintereur and the marshes, woods and waterways he loved. With a life so filled with accomplishments, what would these two sons of Wisconsin have done "with one more day?" We invite you to the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on April 30th to learn more about their dreams and achievements.

With sadness, we must recognize the passing of our good friend, Gene Roark, WCHF Past President and 2015 Inductee. While we will greatly miss him, we also know Gene was happiest when he was sharing his love of nature and fighting for conservation.

New Initiatives and Challenges

WCHF Welcomes New Organizational Members - To strengthen the WCHF and to recognize the diverse contributions of other conservation organizations, the Board of Directors invited Gathering Waters, International Crane Foundation and Wisconsin Society for Ornithology to become Voting Members. We welcome these new partners and their representatives to the Board of Directors.

Promoting Diversity - This year the Board of Directors took up the challenge of increasing diversity (gender, ethnic, etc.) within WCHF. We have already made some progress by increasing diversity on our Boards and Executive Committee; by inviting new organizational members to join WCHF; and by encouraging the nomination of a broader range of conservation leaders. If you have suggestions on this initiative, please let us know.

Strategic and Financial Planning - Over the past 30 years, WCHF has accomplished much with very limited resources. We have inducted 88 conservation leaders and have a wonderful visitor center, meeting room, gallery and interpretive museum. To expand beyond the past grassroots efforts, the Board has developed a Three Year Plan to prioritize important goals and actions (see page 5).

In closing, I would again like to recognize the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and Board of Governors for their continued efforts on behalf of WCHF. We are also especially pleased to welcome Jane Wiley as a new member of the Board of Governors. A special thanks to Brenda Lackey (Treasurer) and Milo Harpstead (Member at Large) who, after years of dedicated service, have stepped down from the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Thank you for your continued interest in the WCHF.

Joe Passineau, WCHF President
jpassine@uwsp.edu • 715-677-4047

Eugene M. Roark Passes



Long-time WCHF Board member and 2015 inductee into the Hall of Fame, Eugene M Roark passed away on Saturday, October 24, 2015. After a tour of duty with the US Army as a First Lieutenant, Eugene received his Masters in Conservation Journalism. He worked for the WDNR for many years in several capacities and later for the State Department of Tourism.

He and his wife, Jean, and their family were life-long conservationists and proud of their Wisconsin heritage. Gene was involved with as many as 100 conservation organizations over the years and was a dedicated and hard-working volunteer for all of them. He was most proud of his efforts to help establish The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin in 1960 where he served on the Board of Trustees for 24 years. Because of his efforts in many worthwhile causes, Gene received a number of awards for his service over the years. For more information see http://wchf.org/inductees/eugene_roark.html

WCHF President Joe Passineau wrote: "He was a great friend and a champion of conservation. He contributed much to the WCHF and to many other organizations. We will all miss his gentle, persuasive, and effective leadership. It was good that we could honor him at last year's WCHF Induction Ceremony."

Reprinted in part from Cress Funeral & Cremation Service.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame Three Year Plan

The Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame needs money. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors have strategically identified the need to hire an Administrative Assistant/Executive Secretary and the importance of financial management in its "Three Year Plan of Work." To accomplish our mission and to fulfill the goals of the Three Year Plan, however, we need funds.

Currently, we have no paid staff and depend fully on the volunteer efforts of elected officers, the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors. Our annual income of approximately \$6,000 covers the cost of the Induction Ceremony and luncheon, printing and sending invitations and newsletters, and some administrative costs. Income revenue comes primarily from Organization (\$2,300) and Affiliate membership fees (\$2,300), luncheon tickets (\$1600), and a few gifts.

Included in our three year plan are the following items:

- Promote diversity in WCHF
- Develop financial management plan including fundraising and related activities
- Hire paid Administrative Assistant/Executive
- Streamline annual induction ceremony and create Induction Planning Guide
- Streamline nomination process and strengthen nominee biographical research
- Increase outreach efforts (Newsletter, Website, etc.)
- Expand Organization memberships
- Develop a Friends Group and expand Affiliate membership
- Develop a strategic plan
- Expand membership services
- Develop educational programs



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If you have suggestions to help us accomplish these goals, please let President Joe Passineau know at jpassine@uwsp.edu. At the very least, please join us or renew your Affiliate membership, and if you can help financially, renew at one of the higher levels. Although we anticipate seeking grant funding, your help will be appreciated by making an extra donation to WCHF to offset the matching requirements.

Other Inductees in the News

Did you catch the great article about Cliff Germain in the December 2015 *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine? Entitled "The forefather of the State Natural Areas System," it gives the reader a wonderful perspective on Cliff's mission to save unique and pristine natural areas. Germain was inducted into WCHF in 2014. <http://dnr.wi.gov/wnrmag/2015/12/germain.pdf>

Charles F. Wurster dedicated his book *DDT Wars* to Lorrie Otto, "who did her best to protect life on Earth". The book subtitled "Rescuing Our National Bird, Preventing Cancer, and Creating the Environmental Defense Fund" is a good perspective on the start of environmental public interest law and the early struggle to ban DDT. Otto was inducted in 1999.

An article found in the February 2016 *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine is about Chief Conservation Warden Harley "Mac" MacKenzie and how he helped to tame the wilds of Wisconsin's Northwoods. MacKenzie was inducted in 1988. <http://dnr.wi.gov/wnrmag/2016/02/back.pdf>

