

# LEAGUE LEADER OF THE MONTH

1922 was an important year for the conservation movement in Wisconsin--the national Izaak Walton League was formed, the Milwaukee Chapter of the IWLA was chartered, and Pearl Pohl began her long career with the League. . .

An active member for over 50 years, Pearl Pohl has made truly astounding advances in the area of environmental education. And when it comes to furthering sound environmental practices, Miss Pohl has spared nothing of her time or fortune.

In 1952 Pearl became President of the Milwaukee Chapter (of which she was a charter member). In addition, she served as that chapter's secretary for many years. Then, in 1960, she organized the LaBudde Memorial Ladies Chapter, in honor of her friend, a leading conservationist, Mrs. Wilhelmina LaBudde. Since that time, for over 17 years, Pearl has served as the President of the LaBudde Chapter. In addition, she has organized many other IWLA chapters throughout Wisconsin.

An elementary school teacher by profession, now retired, Miss Pohl was interested in developing an environmental education curriculum long before this subject became "fashionable." In fact, Pearl was among an early group of conservationists who worked successfully on getting legislation passed which made environmental education mandatory in Wisconsin schools--and this in 1936!

Her sixth grade classes must have been busy with all the projects Pearl had planned for them--projects such as tree plantings, clean up work, field trips, writing letters to Congress, participating in panel discussions. Pearl even guided her students in the development of a master plan for the city of Milwaukee. It wasn't unusual in those days to see Miss Pohl's classes written up in one newspaper or another!

A steadfast commitment to educating the youth of Wisconsin in conservation led to her helping in the development of the still-functioning Young Wisconsin Conservationists. Over 125 students each year are selected to participate in the state-wide conference. Each year

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"Faithful, single minded in purpose, careful in planning and meticulous in execution--that's Pearl. Her many years of dedication to the Izaak Walton League and to the conservation movement are clearly a reflection of her deep love for the environment and all its creatures."

Miriam Dahl, President  
Milwaukee IWLA Chapter

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## Pearl Pohl



a timely topic is chosen for discussion, such as water pollution. Those youngsters who are given the privilege of attending can thank Pearl for YWC's existence.

Pearl has also worked closely on various other environmental projects, including efforts to keep portions of a Wisconsin river under the wild river designation, the struggle to save the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and numerous tree planting projects, a particular favorite of Pearl's.

Other activities in which she has been involved include: Wisconsin Citizens' Committee for the Moraine National Park, the Trees for Tomorrow Workshop, the Environmental Education Council of Greater Milwaukee, Chairman of the Milwaukee Chapter's Educational Council, leadership in various garden clubs and parent-teacher associations, and on and on.

There really is no end to the list of accomplishments this unique woman has to her credit. And through all this, Pearl has been held in the highest esteem by the people with whom she's worked. To Pearl Pohl, and to others who have devoted countless years to a cause in which they believe, LEAGUE LEADER salutes you!