

AWARD-WINNING IKES

We had the pleasure of recognizing individuals and organizations from across the country who made a difference in conserving outdoor America – today and for future generations.

54 FOUNDERS AWARD

The League's highest honor is given to an individual, group, or organization judged to have made an outstanding contribution to the conservation of America's natural and renewable resources. Only one can be awarded per year, and in some years an award is not made if no candidates are deemed worthy. You can read a full list of previous award winners online at www.iwla.org/54Founders.

Charles "Chuck" Clayton (South Dakota)

Chuck Clayton has been an avid conservationist and Ike for decades, working on a range of conservation issues at the local, state, and national levels.

He has served as the League's national president (2003-2005), national vice president (2001-2003), and a member of the Executive Board for close to a decade. He currently chairs the League's Public Lands Committee and previously chaired the Resolutions Committee. Locally, he served as president of his chapter as well as president and vice president of the South Dakota Division.

Clayton wrote a weekly outdoor column for the *Huron Plainsman* for several years, has been published in numerous conservation magazines and periodicals (including *Outdoor America*), and even had his own outdoor radio show focused on environmental issues. He was part of the Izaak Walton League's task force on the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge and testified before the U.S. Senate on how to interpret the Supreme Court's *Rapanos* decision as it applies to the Clean Water Act. He is recognized throughout South Dakota as a spokesperson for conservation, annually testifying before the state legislature, and has been one of the state's strongest advocates for protecting wetlands and native prairie. He worked countless hours to help create the Tony Dean Acres legacy, which will set aside several hundred acres of habitat for public use and youth education, and on efforts to create a dedicated conservation fund in South Dakota.

In 1999, Clayton was awarded the League's national Conservation Award. He was named the South Dakota Wildlife Federation's Conservationist of the Year in 2000 (the organization's highest honor) and received IWLA South Dakota Division's Eakins-Ensbury Award of Excellence (the division's highest honor) in 2002.

Clayton exemplifies the League's mission and the League is proud to honor him with this award.

Pictured: Chuck Clayton (left) accepts his award from IWLA national president Bob Chapman (right).

HALL OF FAME AWARD

These members achieved a record of outstanding accomplishment in furthering the mission and goals of the League.



Stanley and Patricia Jarosz (Indiana)

Stan and Patty Jarosz are dedicated to the Indiana Division's annual Youth Camp, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2012. Stan attended the camp as a child. When he turned 16, he became a junior counselor and life guard. When Stan and Patty started dating, he invited her to spend a couple of days with him at the camp. And the rest, as they say, is history. Stan and Patty married and their children grew up with the Youth Camp.

Stan has been director of the camp for 20 years. He wanted his kids and other children to have a chance to experience the camp he knew and loved. Stan and Patty have kept the camp a place for kids to enjoy the great outdoors.

Today, the staff is mostly made up of former campers. They are drawn back by what the camp stands for and the opportunity to guide new generations of campers. Youth learn about camaraderie, conservation, and the Izaak Walton League. "All week, they go without computers, air conditioning and electricity," says Stan. "There's no video games, no cell phones. It's an opportunity for kids to spend the week out in the wilderness and just have fun, just be kids."

Last year, 120 youth attended the camp – the highest number ever. All told, several thousand kids have had the opportunity to explore the outdoors at the Indiana Division's Youth Camp. And Stan and Patty Jarosz have met most of them.



Terry McCloskey (Indiana)

Terry McCloskey has been a member of the Izaak Walton League since 1978. He served as Indiana Division president and had a hand in reinvigorating two chapters that are now thriving. Now a member of the Porter County Chapter, he is leading an initiative to increase the chapter's conservation land holdings — part of a life-long effort to conserve Indiana's natural resources.

In 2011, Terry was the primary mover to raise funds to purchase the Don and Mary Frame Family Conservation Area — 20 acres that straddle the East Branch of the Little Calumet River, which eventually drains into Lake Michigan. He is now negotiating with other landowners, elected officials, and foundations to protect more land in the area.

Terry helped form the Save the Dunes Conservation Fund Land Committee, which acquired nearly 500 acres through purchases and easements and secured \$475,000 in cash contributions from the easement donations.

While Indiana Division president, Terry led litigation against the Eleven County Drainage Board that was trying to levy a new drainage assessment on all properties in the Kankakee River watershed to "clean and snag" the entire length of the Kankakee River in Indiana. The Drainage Board lost this case with the precedent-setting requirement that drainage assessments had to stipulate the benefits to each landowner and that landowners getting more benefits should pay more than those with minimal benefits.

Fellow IWLA Hall of Fame member Charlotte Read says, "Nobody knows the land of northwest Indiana better than Terry McCloskey."



Byron "Butch" Mezick (Maryland)

Ikes may remember Butch Mezick from last year's convention, where he gave a closing banquet speech on "Conservation, Firearms, and Leadership." Mezick has been a member of the League's Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter since 1990, where he has served in a variety of offices, including president, Board of Governors member, and Endowment Fund member. He currently chairs the chapter's Forestry Committee, Land Acquisition and Fundraising Committee, and Conservation Easement Committee.

As Forestry Committee chairman, Mezick has been a passionate driver of the effort to turn former farm property back into native forest. He has organized hundreds of people for a massive effort to plant and maintain native trees on the property — 1,000 trees each year for the past four years. Mezick tracks tree plantings and outcomes to help inform future efforts. In the busy suburbs outside Washington, DC, the return of native trees will be a boon for people and wildlife.

Under Mezick's leadership, the Conservation Easement Committee has established easements — dedicating land to forest in perpetuity — on 523 acres and is working to add approximately 100 more acres to that total. The chapter has leveraged these easements to raise funds to purchase more land for conservation purposes. Mezick's volunteerism also benefits the local community. With three other chapter members, he educates students in Poolesville High School's Global Ecology Magnet Program, including using bi-annual explorations of the chapter property to explain nature and conservation concepts.



Herbert and Charlotte Read (Indiana)

Conservation "power couple" Herb and Charlotte Read are well-known in Indiana and throughout the Great Lakes region. For more than 50 years, they have led efforts to create, expand, and protect the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Today, the national lakeshore comprises more than 15,000 acres of dunes, oak savannas, swamps, bogs, marshes, prairies, rivers, and forests, including 15 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. The biological diversity here ranks seventh among all national parks. More than 1,100 flowering plant species and ferns and more than 350 bird species inhabit the area. About 2 million visitors enjoy the national lakeshore each year, including thousands of school children.

The Reads are synonymous with the dunes and successful efforts there. But they don't see saving the dunes as an isolated cause. They know that the air, water, and land around the lakeshore are intertwined with those sands. "I have never known more fearless people," said Tom Dustin, another League legend, about the Reads. "Resolute, determination, exceptional expertise, and the ability to endure combat and strike two blows for every one received are among their characteristics." The Reads have received numerous other awards, including the Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the highest award presented by the Governor of Indiana.

"In conservation, eternal vigilance is a constant," said Charlotte. Herb agrees, saying that victory can be as fleeting as the shifting sands. With these life-long advocates working to protect Indiana's natural resources, we know those sands will not run out.

Conservation Award

Recognizes individual member contributions to conservation in the name of the League.

Robert Barnhill (Virginia)
Robert Benson (Maryland)
Kenneth Dufalla (Pennsylvania)
George Estes (Maryland)
Donald Gardiner (Maryland)
Charles "Ed" Higdon (California)
Darden Langston (Virginia)
Frank Ricco (Pennsylvania)
Floyd "Danny" Stephenson (Virginia)
Michael Sullivan (Virginia)

Outdoor Ethics Award

Recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work in outdoor ethics during the previous year.

Woodie Walker II, Friends of the Rappahannock (Virginia)

Outdoor America's Future Award

Presented to one youth or student member who has volunteered many hours for the League's conservation mission at the local or state level.

Tyler J.W. George (Virginia)

Save Our Streams Award

Presented to individuals, groups, and/or organizations that have done outstanding work in environmental education and citizen activism for clean water.

Brownsville Area Chapter (Pennsylvania)
Girl Scout Troop #536 (Virginia) (pictured left)
Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter (Virginia)



James Lawton Childs Award

Recognizes the chapter that has carried out the most outstanding conservation program(s) during the past year. This award includes a gift of \$500 from the IWLA Endowment.

Small Chapter (less than 500 members):
Hamilton Chapter (Ohio)

Robert C. O'Hair Award

Recognizes the chapter that has carried out the most outstanding youth program(s) during the past year. This award includes a gift of \$250.

Small Chapter (less than 500 members):
Oil City Chapter (Pennsylvania)

Large Chapter (more than 500 members):
Dragoon Trail Chapter (Iowa)

Honor Roll Award

These people and organizations achieved outstanding accomplishments in conservation, public education, and/or publicity efforts in keeping with the League's goals.

Ankeny Optimist Club (Iowa)
Thomas M. Clarke, Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund (Virginia)
Faye Cooper, Valley Conservation Council (Virginia)
Harry Lee Cross, III (Virginia)
CSX Intermodal – Chambersburg, Pennsylvania Terminal (Pennsylvania)
U.S. Representative John D. Dingell, Jr. (12th District Michigan)
Fredericksburg Academy Middle School Science Program (Virginia)
Angelo A. Puglisi, A&M Investments (Virginia)
James L. Woltz, Woltz and Associates (Virginia)



DEFENDERS CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

At our Membership Awards breakfast, 29 chapters took home the League's Defenders Chapter Achievement Award. Each chapter demonstrated a commitment to membership, support of the League's mission, local scholarships, on-the-ground conservation, effective communication, and youth engagement in 2013.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter (Maryland)
 Bill Cook Chapter** (Wisconsin)
 Brown County Chapter (Wisconsin)
 Central New York Chapter (New York)
 Des Moines Chapter (Iowa)
 Dwight Lydell Chapter (Michigan)
 Elgin Chapter (Illinois)
 Frederick #1 Chapter (Maryland)
 Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter (Virginia)
 Grand Island Chapter (Nebraska)
 Hamilton Chapter (Ohio)
 Harford County Chapter (Maryland)
 Kampeska Chapter (South Dakota)
 Lincoln Chapter (Nebraska)
 Lois Green-Sligo Chapter* (Maryland)
 Loudoun County Chapter (Virginia)
 Mid-Shore Chapter (Maryland)
 Mountaineer Chapter (West Virginia)
 Owatonna Chapter (Minnesota)
 Rockville Chapter (Maryland)
 Silverton Chapter** (Oregon)
 Sioux Falls Chapter (South Dakota)
 Sunshine Chapter (South Dakota)
 Tiffin-Seneca County Chapter** (Ohio)
 Warren County Chapter (Iowa)
 Warren County Chapter** (Virginia)
 Wayne County Chapter (Ohio)
 Wildlife Achievement Chapter (Maryland)
 York Chapter #67 (Pennsylvania)

KEY

*5th Consecutive Year Recognition

**10th Consecutive Year Recognition



Stanford M. Adams Memorial Award

Recognizes a National Director, Director-at-Large, or Regional Governor who has shown extraordinary commitment to the duties and responsibilities that come with his or her League position.

Garrit S. Struck (Illinois)

Gary Struck stepped in to lead the League's Executive Board after the sudden passing of Board chairman Roger Sears. In this capacity, Gary led the organization through one of the most intense periods in recent memory – development of a strategic plan that will guide the League into the future. He has also served as a national director and chairman of the Resolutions Committee. The Executive Board appreciates Gary's leadership, vision, and good humor under pressure.

Thelma "Pete" Reed Memorial Award

Presented to a member who has volunteered many hours at the local or state level and is considered an "up and coming" future leader of the Izaak Walton League.

Kylee West (Maryland)

THANK YOU CALIFORNIA DIVISION

Many thanks to members of the League's California Division and local chapters (aka "Dudes," some of whom are pictured at left), who provided an exceptional experience for all our attendees. We are deeply appreciative of their many hours of volunteer service that made this year's convention such a success.



NEXT STOP: SOUTH DAKOTA

2015 NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 15-17, 2015

Best Western Ramkota Hotel

Pierre, South Dakota

<http://pierre.bwramkota.com>

Making the most of your chapter's conservation and recreation opportunities. Guiding the League into the next decade. Greeting old friends — and making new ones. You'll find all this and more at next year's IWLA national convention in Pierre, South Dakota.

Pierre is located in the center of the state, just a few hours from all the major attractions, including:

- Black Hills
- Mount Rushmore
- Badlands National Park
- Fort Pierre National Grasslands
- Buffalo Interpretive Center

While you're there, you can enjoy fishing on Lake Sharpe and Lake Oahe; shooting trap, rifle, and sporting clays; and numerous biking and hiking trails. Mark your calendar today and check the League Web site for details.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Best Chapter Member Recruitment

Recognizes innovative chapter membership marketing programs and strategies geared for success.

Dragoon Trail Chapter (Iowa)

54 Round Table Awards

Awarded to chapter members who recruited at least 54 League members in 2013. (Some of these winners are the Membership Dues Recipients for their chapters.)

Tom Ciarula, Arlington-Fairfax Chapter (Virginia): 243 members

Joan Strahler, Loudoun County Chapter (Virginia): 222 members

K. Lee Van Brocklin, Ames Chapter (Iowa): 189 members

Robert Godlove, Linn County Chapter (Iowa): 135 members

Jeffrey Chandler, Evansville Chapter (Indiana): 82 members

Larry Stouffer, Washington County Chapter (Maryland): 80 members

Larry Plunkard, Alexandria Chapter (Virginia): 80 members

Jeff Bower, Dubuque Chapter (Iowa): 80 members

Lisa Fuhrman, York Chapter (Pennsylvania): 78 members

Jeremy Brown, Eugene Chapter (Oregon): 73 members

Pete Williams, Alexandria Chapter (Virginia): 72 members

John C. Gregory Memorial Award

Awarded to the division with the highest membership increase.

Virginia Division (783 net gain of new members)

Membership Achievement Awards

Recognize the chapters with the largest numeric and percentage increase of all League chapters.

Greatest Percentage Increase

Sabula Chapter (Iowa):
88 percent increase

Greatest Numeric Increase

Pikes Peak Chapter (Colorado):
366 net gain

Membership Merit Awards

Recognize chapter growth based on membership categories that allow chapters to be ranked with chapters of a similar size.

50 and Under Member Class

Oakdale Chapter (Iowa): net gain of
17 members/68 percent increase

51-250 Member Class

Lawrence County Chapter (Ohio):
net gain of 39 members

Sabula Chapter (Iowa):
88 percent increase

251-500 Member Class

Warren County Chapter (Iowa): net
gain of 100 members/40 percent
increase

501 and Over Member Class

Pikes Peak Chapter (Colorado):
net gain of 366 members
Dragoon Trail Chapter (Iowa):
32 percent increase

Best Chapter Newsletter

Small Chapter (less than 500 members):

Warren County Chapter (Virginia)

Best Chapter Web Site

Frederick #1 Chapter (Maryland)