



From left: Sam Oliver, David Nelson, Karen Darch, and Carol Nelson.



Eric Schenck, exec. dir. of IFC, and ICF Board Member Barbara Johnson recognize David Nelson as an inductee into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame.



BACT staff members (from left) Susan Lenz, Nan Alonzo, Emily Solberg, and Lisa Woolford.

The Natural Choice

DAVID NELSON NAMED TO 2017 ILLINOIS OUTDOOR HALL OF FAME

ON AUGUST 27, 2017, David Nelson was joined by family, friends, and community members while recognized as an inductee into the Illinois Conservation Foundation's Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame. Since 2002, the ICF has recognized Illinoisans for their significant contributions and unparalleled dedication in preserving, promoting, enhancing or supporting natural resources, and outdoor recreation opportunities with induction into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame.

Nelson is one of Barrington's most active volunteers and community advocates, and has promoted natural lands conservation and outdoor recreation access in Northeast Illinois for five decades. He is a longtime board member and past president of the Barrington Area Conservation Trust, and is the president of the Lake County Forest Preserve Preservation Foundation. Nelson was the longtime township supervisor of Cuba Township, and a former village president of Barrington.

"Most of you don't know, but I grew up on

my grandparent's farm where my brothers and I could run for hours through corn and soybean fields, catch frogs and crayfish in a pure stream, play hide-and-seek in the woods, and from the farmhouse on a hill, see for miles with very little obstruction," Nelson shared at Barrington's White House. "As an adult, when my wife Carol and I were looking for a community to call home, Barrington was the natural choice. There aren't too many communities within 30 miles of an international airport, within an hour of a major American city, where you can find 1- to 5-acre zoning, an abundance of horse and bicycle trails, and hundreds of acres of Forest Preserves land, as well as private sanctuaries."

Nelson reflected briefly on the many projects he's worked on: The Campground at Baker's Lake, Memorial Park, Citizens Park; the Grove at Cuba Township, Barkley's Woods in Tower Lake, Grassy Lake Preserves in Lake County, Pederson Preserve and Barrington Area Conservation Trust properties and easements. "I am humbled and honored



Tim Dunn and Bob Nemeec.

to accept this award," Nelson said. "In our community of Barrington, there are many people who work tirelessly to preserve, enhance, and maintain open space. In my life of public service, it just seemed natural to me to help identify land to be preserved because it is becoming such a rare commodity. Whether it be marshland, prairie, a stand of oaks, or a pine woods, I've always done what I could to bring together like-minded people to protect open space for future generations."

Learn about the Illinois Conservation Foundation at www.ilfc.org.