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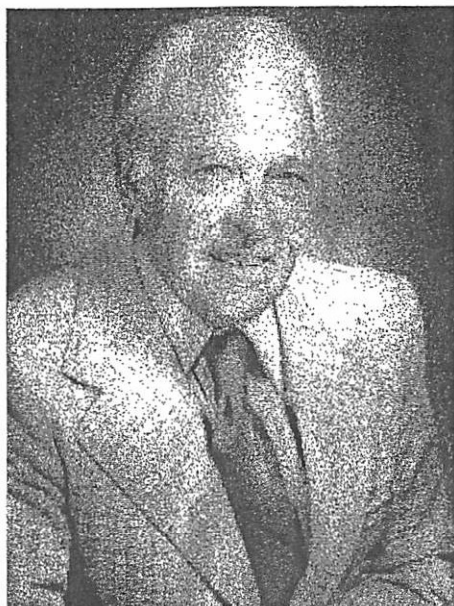
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**REYNOLD E. CARLSON:
A DISTINGUISHED PIONEER IN OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

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Long before it was a popular cause in this country, this man was concerned about the environment. His particular interest was in the relationship of human beings to the environment and the meaningful utilization of natural resources to sustain a high quality of life. He was committed to creating outdoor recreation experiences, protecting basic ecological balance, and giving dynamic leadership to the international camping movement.

Professor Reynold E. Carlson earned his A.B. and M.A. degrees at the University of California at Berkeley. He was a high school teacher, a principal, and a naturalist with the National Park Service before he joined the staff of the National Recreation Association in 1936. His work with the Park Service and with the National Recreation Association brought him national acclaim as a champion of conservation practices. He joined the faculty of the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at

Indiana University in 1947, and he served the Department of Recreation and Park Administration with distinction as a teacher until he was named professor emeritus in 1972. From 1962 to 1966 he also served as the chair of the department.

During his tenure at IU, Professor Carlson supervised the development of the outdoor recreation education curriculum and the development of Bradford Woods Outdoor Education and Camping Center. He was also instrumental in the establishment of Camp Riley and the American Camping Association Headquarters at Bradford Woods.

In the early 1950s, Professor Carlson first visited Bradford Woods, the 2,300-acre property given to Indiana University by the Bradford brothers. At the time of his visit, he found second-growth timber and a few deserted structures in need of repair. However, he saw in the site

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land worthy of development and was able to persuade University officials and leaders of the Riley Memorial Association that indeed the land had great potential. Professor Carlson invested hundreds of hours in preparing a master plan for land use, and fashioned educational programs that have become models for outdoor learning facilities throughout the United States and the world.

Through his vision and efforts, the Indiana University Bradford Woods Outdoor Education and Camping Center became a reality, housing five resident camps, the national headquarters of the American Camping Association, a year-round workshop facility, and a comprehensive outdoor education program for school youth.

Under Professor Carlson's watchful eye, the Bradford House was renovated into a learning resources center that has become an integral part of Indiana University's Outdoor Education Program. On Professor Carlson's 80th birthday, the Bradford Woods Learning Resources Area was dedicated in his name in honor of the unique, outstanding leadership he had given to the university.

Bradford Woods is the most visible monument to Rey Carlson's pioneering spirit, but there are also hundreds of students who, through their work in recreation and park service, are monuments to his extraordinary teaching skills. In 1963 he received Indiana University's highest recognition for his teaching—the Frederick Bachman Lieber Award for teaching excellence.

Rey Carlson dedicated his life to the advancement of leisure professions as a consultant, naturalist, author and speaker. He served as president of the American Camping Association, was cofounder of the Association of Interpretive Naturalists, and founding member of the Academy of Leisure Sciences.

In addition to his distinguished career as a teacher and his leadership in a number of professional associations, Professor Carlson gave outstanding service to the citizens of Indiana as a highly respected member of the Advisory Council of the Department of Natural Resources. He

had a clear perception of public policy implications and was acknowledged as an expert in the management of the state's natural resources.

Professor Carlson received distinguished service awards from the American Camping Association, the National Recreation and Park Association, the National Association of Interpretive Naturalists, the Great Lakes Park Training Institute, the American Recreation Society, the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, and the Girl Scouts of America. He was an elected member of the National Academy of Leisure Sciences, and the American Recreation Society. He was active in a vast number of professional organizations whose leaders constantly sought his counsel. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of outdoor education, he received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degrees from both Springfield College and Indiana University.

When Reynold Carlson retired in 1972, his colleagues, close friends, and former students spearheaded an effort to establish a Carlson Distinguished Lecture Endowment Fund in Indiana University's Foundation in honor of this pioneer of the outdoor recreation/education movement. The purpose was to fund a lecture series "to help perpetuate the excellent program in outdoor recreation Dr. Carlson had built" in his 25 year tenure at the University. To make an enduring tribute to Rey's ideals, contributions were directed to a special endowment fund at Indiana University Foundation with interest income earmarked to support the lecture series.

The Department of Recreation and Park Administration also commissioned noted wildlife artist Charles T. Crume, Jr. to prepare an original oil, *The Pileated Woodpecker*, in honor of Rey and his wife, Ruth Carlson. At the time, Mr. Crume was chief naturalist of Bernheim Forest Nature Preserve in Kentucky. The original oil was presented to the Carlsons at IU's 1972 Lebert H. Weir banquet. Full-color limited edition collector prints were made available to all contributors to the endowment.

In the literature prepared for the endowment, Rey was described as "master teacher, respected

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author, philosopher, world traveler, gifted speaker, dedicated professional, and sensitive human being...an inspiration to all who have had the privilege of knowing him.”

Since the inception of the Reynold E. Carlson Distinguished Lectureship Endowment, each year an outstanding leader from the field of outdoor recreation/education is selected to present the Carlson Lecture, and this special endowment fund supports the lecture series. Many outstanding individuals have served as Distinguished Lecturers, including outdoor education pioneers such as George Donaldson, Paul Petzoldt, Donald Hammerman, Phyllis Ford, Betty van der Smissen, Clifford Knapp, Camille Bunting, Daniel Dustin, Alan Ewert, and others too numerous to mention.

Dr. Carlson died February 19, 1997 in Bloomington, Indiana at the age of 95. He was

indeed a very special person. Perhaps no one else has so significantly touched the lives of faculty, staff, and students in the field of parks and recreation at Indiana University. Rey was recognized as a dynamic leader in the areas of outdoor recreation/education, conservation, and organized camping, but most of all—whether in the classroom or the field—he was truly a master teacher who had the unique ability to excite the mind, light fires, and stimulate educational interests in every student. His genuine and caring warmth, kind and gentle debonair, and wonderful mentoring technique infected everyone with his love of the great outdoors.

The right man in the right place at the right time, Rey Carlson gave much and received, in return, the respect and admiration of all who had benefited from his inspiration.