



Archery Icon



The Official Newsletter of The Archery Hall of Fame & Museum, Inc.

Volume 2 • Number 3 • Fall - 2009

HALL OF FAMER DAVE SAMUEL RECEIVES QDMA HAMILTON LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

During the Quality Deer Management Association's 9th Annual National Convention, Joe Hamilton, QDMA's founder and Director of Education for the South, presented Dr. David E. Samuel with the Joe Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award.

Each year the award is given to a QDMA member who has dedicated his life and career to wildlife management in general and deer management in particular, making a significant impact in deer management, deer research, deer hunting, and advancing the mission of the QDMA.

Dr. Samuel is an accomplished educator with a doctorate in Wildlife Biology,

He marked his professional trail with hundreds of published articles, academic relationships with a host of graduate students, and service to natural resource organizations. Dr. Samuel has served as a mentor to countless hunters and has been a staunch advocate of the QDMA and QDM ever since he first recommended the philosophy to readers of his magazine column in 1990.

After presenting the award to Dr. Samuel, Joe Hamilton said, "Aldo Leopold, renowned Father of Wildlife Management and the nation's first university wildlife professor, was the consummate educator. Professor Leopold would have been proud of Dr. David E. Samuel's lifetime accomplishments with an emphasis on education. His prowess as a hunter is unquestionable, but it is his reputation as an educator that singled him out of the masses as a deserving recipient of the QDMA's most prestigious award."



Hamilton's statement speaks for the commitment to and the impact of Dr. Samuel's lifetime dedication to wildlife management. Named after Mr. Hamilton, the award is the highest honor bestowed upon a QDMA member. Acceptance of the award puts Dr. Samuel in an esteemed group of only a handful of Joe Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients who will forever be remembered and appreciated by the Quality Deer Management Association for the advancement of the mission of the organization.

Dave was inducted into the Archery Hall of Fame with the class of 2006.

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From The President

Speaking on behalf of all Archery Hall of Fame officers, I want to thank our friend Dick Lattimer for his leadership and calming influence during the trying time that followed the sudden loss of Dave Staples in 2008. While Dick did not seek, much less want the Presidency under the sad circumstance of Dave's passing, he accepted the challenge and worked with Executive Director Diane Miller and the other Directors to promote archery and honor those who have made a positive and significant impact on the sport. I am convinced that our Hall is better today for Dick's longtime involvement.



MR James

On a personal note, I recall Dick Lattimer from our days in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where we launched our respective archery-related careers in 1971. That's the year Dick moved north to open an in-house advertising at Bear Archery in Grayling, Michigan, working for Fred Bear himself. And that's the same year Don Clark, two other friends, and I launched *Bowhunter Magazine*, while still employed by The Magnavox Company in Fort Wayne. Seems since '71 Dick, Don, and I have crossed trails professionally countless times over the ensuing years. More importantly, along the way we became friends and even in retirement continue to be involved in archery.

Unfortunately, health issues have now forced Dick to step down as AHOF President. He recently made the formal announcement in a letter to the Board. That bit of bad news was somewhat tempered by the fact that Dick agreed to continue serving as an officer through the end of his term in 2010.

As Vice President, I have the responsibility of taking over Dick's duties. According to our constitution and bylaws, I will serve as President for the remainder of Dick's term. At that time an election will determine who will lead the AHOF for the next five years.

Like Dick, although I did not seek the office I now hold, I will do my very best in leading the Archery Hall of Fame & Museum, Inc. in the months ahead. And what a busy year 2010 will be, with the announcement of the latest AHOF inductees and -- Lord willing -- the opening of the Hall's newly constructed permanent home at Bass Pro Shop's flagship store in Springfield, Missouri. Already Diane, Dick, and the other directors are assisting me as we work to conduct the routine and exceptional business that marks the management of an exceptional organization.

Watch future issues of this newsletter for the latest Hall of Fame news.

Swinehart 50 Year Time Capsule Opened

An Emmaus, Pennsylvania woman has made an emotional connection with her father, 27 years after his death.

Lisa Weida received an envelope with a 4 cent stamp from the 50 year old Emmaus time capsule opened in August to celebrate the borough's 250th year anniversary. What she found inside, was a surprise family gift. Lisa thought she was getting a letter from her father, instead it was the front page of the newspaper featuring her dad Bob Swinehart, and also the tiny photo of her family.



For many, a family photo in a time capsule, might not seem like that big a deal. But for Lisa it said something about her dad that she never really knew for sure. "He wasn't a touchy-feely guy. I didn't have a close relationship with him while he was living," she said.

Lisa's dad was a hall of fame archer. With his long bow and arrow he hunted big game in Africa, becoming the first man to bag the big five: Cape Buffalo, Lion, Leopard, Elephant and Rhino. But for all his passion on safari, Lisa says that passion wasn't seen at home.

Bob Swinehart died in 1982, but 23 years before he ensured his family knew exactly how he felt, even if he couldn't convey it in person.



We Get Letters.....

Diane Miller, Executive Director
The Archery Hall of Fame & Museum, Inc.
58 North Main Street
Union City, PA 16438

June 30th, 2009

Diane,

Sorry to learn about Dr. Grayson. What a magnificent contribution he made to the world of archery.

Glad you got to spend some quality time with him. A privilege, indeed.

About four years ago, the Curator of The University of Missouri's Museum of Anthropology contacted me with a request for artifacts from our Wilson Boys archery era. She explained they wanted to build a special display as a part of the Grayson Collection to feature our archery exploits and would also like to include some of our "Black Widow Bow" manufacturing equipment.

Other than Cristine Wilson, Bob's widow, my wife, Lucile, and I are the only "Wilson Boys" surviving member or spouse. Norman, Jack and their wives are deceased. Therefore, I contacted Cristine and together we compiled a collection of bows, arrows, trophies and Black Widow manufacturing items. Missouri University sent a vehicle to pick up what we had selected.

At a later date, I was contacted by the Missouri State Archery Association and invited to present the initial winners of the Missouri State Archery Tournament with Perpetual Championship Trophies commemorating the Wilson Boys and their contributions to Missouri archery. The tournament was held in Columbia, Missouri, and when the University's Curator learned we were going to be in town, it was arranged for us to meet with them at the Museum to identify, label and discuss in more detail the items we had contributed. Accordingly, they provided us with an extensive "warehouse" tour of the Grayson Collection. We had a good discussion, photos were taken and they were most gracious.

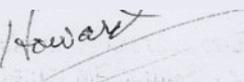
Interestingly, when I made the presentation to the winners at the Missouri State Archery Tournament, my sister, June Jennings was there along with Cristine Wilson. Over the years, I had won the Missouri State titles in both the Junior and Men's Divisions, Cristine had won in the Ladies Division and my sister, June, had won in the Junior Girls Division. So, it was a "homecoming" of sorts that revived a lot of fond memories. We were given photos of the Perpetual Trophies that feature etching of the four Wilson Boys, Norman, Jack, Bob and myself - and of the presentation.

Your "Remembering The Class of 1977" that included Earl Hoyt also brought back memories. Earl was a good friend and we had friendly supporting competition between us over the years - both on the range and in the field of tackle manufacturing. My last contact with him was in the 1970's when he called to discuss some new bow design innovations. Earl always strived for perfection both with his shooting as well as the equipment he manufactured. I remember one time when he switched from shooting right handed to left handed because he was so frustrated with trying to correct "bad habits." That was total dedication!!!

I have some old group archery tournament photos with Earl including the "Four State Archery Tournament" that we sponsored in Springfield, Missouri (The Ozark Archery Club). In addition to trophies, we awarded merchandise prizes generously donated by local merchants. I remember one that was attended by Earl along with Ben Pearson and Pat Chambers, Ben's General Manager and a former National Champion. I won that tournament three times so it was one of my favorites!

Thank you for keeping me on your mailing list, it's always a joy to read your articles. I turned 85 the 13th of June (I was born on Friday the 13th) and the memories flow when I receive your publication. Really fine work you are doing and I wish you continued success.

As always -



Howard N. Wilson
Sarasota, FL 34241

Archery Mourns the Loss of Bill Bednar

William J. Bednar, 2007 inductee into the Archery Hall of Fame, passed away September 2, 2009, at age 84.

Raised on the family farm in Randolph, Ohio, he was introduced to hard work at an early age. He labored on the farm through his school years, and into his mid twenties. His experience operating farm equipment ultimately led him to employment as an excavation equipment operator, where one of his most notable projects was helping build the Ohio Turnpike.



His first experience with a bow and arrow came fairly late in life. In the fall of 1958, at age 33, he and his wife, Edith, attended the Cleveland Sportsman's Show with another couple. Bednar spent most of the afternoon shooting arrows with his friend at the show's archery venue while they left the two wives to roam the show on their own.

For months following the event, Bednar could not stop talking about how much he had enjoyed shooting the bow, so his wife bought him a fiberglass bow and arrow set at a local department store for Christmas. But, something about the bow was not right, so he visited an archery shop in a nearby town where the proprietor quickly realized that even though Bednar was right-handed, he was left-eye dominant. He needed a left-handed bow. He quickly retired his wife's wonderful Christmas present and ordered a brand new "wrong-handed" bow.

In short order he joined the nearby Ravenna Archery Club, where he met local legend, Harry Gilchrest. Gilchrest ran the club, was the high school football coach, and was a great archer in his own right. According to Edith Bednar, "Harry was a great teacher and recognized that Bill was a natural. Right from the start he got Bill involved in tournament shooting. Bill always credited Harry for his rapid climb as a tournament archer."

In August of 1961, one-year and seven-months after shooting his first bow, he competed as the number three shooter on the USA team that won the World Championship in Oslo, Norway. Individually, he finished 10th in the world.

Believing that archery should move in the same direction as professional golf, he turned professional the following year and went on to win the first ever Professional Archery Association (PAA) Championship held in Daytona Beach, FL.

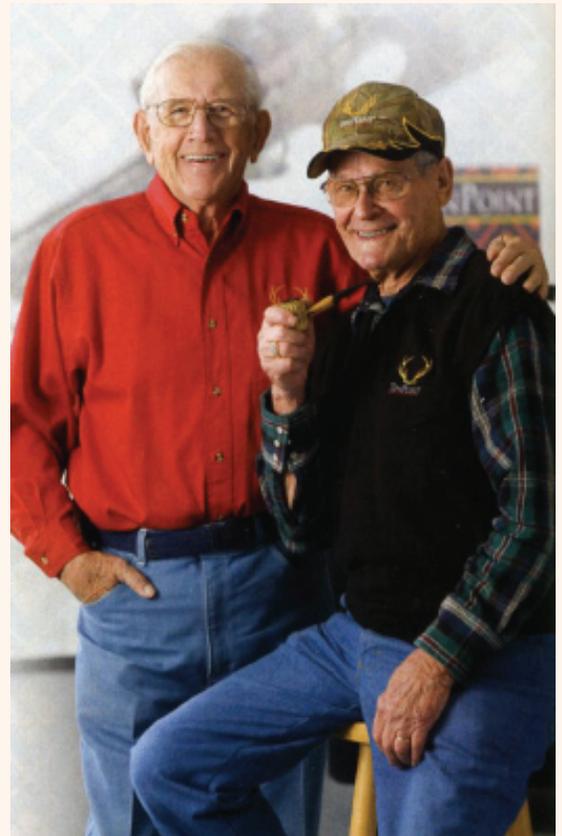
The following January, in 1963, the family purchased a brick building in nearby Suffield, Ohio and spent the next eleven months converting it into a three bedroom dwelling, archery pro shop, and indoor and outdoor range.

By November of that year, they had sold the Randolph, Ohio, home Bednar built with his own hands from cherry and oak trees felled on the property, and the family moved into their new home and family business, Portage Archery Center.

Edith ran the business and raised their three children (Cindy 9, Rick 6, and Joanna 3) while Bednar continued to support the family operating heavy equipment.

He continued working road construction for the next three years until he was injured while working on a campus expansion job at Kent State University. The injury was not job threatening, but he decided to quit construction to help his wife run the business. By then it had grown enough to support the family.

Once Portage Archery was up and running in early 1964, Bednar was anxious to get back in action competing at the highest level. That year he won the prestigious Ben Pearson Open in Detroit's Cobo Hall.



**Archery Hall of Famers, Tenpoint's
George Gardner and Bill**