

# Harold W. Andersen,

## *A Distinguished Fellow*



*Andy Andersen (right) and  
Ron Klataske at Andy's Triple  
Creek Farm and Lodge in  
Missouri, April 2013*

**T**he greatest people we have known do not lead and aspire for personal rewards. They think in terms of what they can do and how they can help others. In Andy Andersen's case, his devotion has included conservation, instilling outdoor enjoyment and the profession of journalism. He also has a natural propensity of bringing people together in friendship. His leadership exemplifies a quotation attributed to Walt Whitman:

*"When I give, I give myself."*

A general overview of Andy's impressive contributions to a broad spectrum of interests to the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation and the agency were included in text of a **Distinguished Fellow Award** presented to Andy in July, a few days before his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The list is just the tip of the iceberg of Andy's contributions and leadership for conservation alone. He served on the Midwest Advisory Committee for the National Park Service many years ago, contributed generously to Ducks Unlimited, National Audubon and Audubon Nebraska, the Nebraska Land Trust, and The Nature Conservancy, which relied on his guidance for establishment of a state chapter in Nebraska.

With a three-year challenge gift and fundraising outreach he also made it possible for **Audubon of Kansas** to emerge from a largely unfunded startup to an effective conservation force. With AOK's acceptance of the gift of 5,000 acres from the estate of Harold and Lucille Hutton that became the Hutton Niobrara Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary in 2002, AOK has relied on the sage

advice of Andy (and fellow Nebraska leader Charles Wright of Lincoln) to make the property an outstanding demonstration of stewardship.

We have been honored to have Andy Andersen on the Audubon of Kansas Board of Trustees. Our board consists of individuals who have excelled in their professions and personal lives. Andersen Hall, which houses the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at UNL, is named after Harold and Marian Andersen. The inspirational leadership of this couple is without parallel in Nebraska. Harold Andersen has spent his life in an unrelenting quest to see a free press established globally and has affected political and governmental decision-making worldwide. He was the first American to serve as president of the International Federation of Newspaper Publishers.

As a way of being more closely involved in activities with their teenage son, David, Andy followed the advice of a friend and began with an extended canoe trip on the Dismal River. Hunting became a joint passion and continues. I have been honored to host Andy, David and other friends for nearly-annual Spring Turkey hunting in Kansas, and join them on other occasions at Andersen's farm devoted to conservation and hunting and fishing in Missouri. For many of our nation's first generations of conservationists, hunting has been a springboard for conservation. And as we have previously highlighted in *PRAIRIE WINGS*, conservation and camaraderie are complementary companions.

—Ron Klataske



*Think where man's glory  
most begins and ends,  
and say my glory was  
I had such friends.*

—W. B. Yeats,

## Resolution Distinguished Fellow Award

July 26, 2013

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen is an advocate with voice and pen for Nebraska's natural, cultural and parkland resources so that future generations can enjoy, learn and experience all that the Great State of Nebraska has to offer, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen is a friend of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission who for many years has faithfully and unselfishly given his time, expertise, resources, passion and commitment to help the Commission meet their mission of "Stewardship of the state's fish, wildlife, park, and outdoor recreation resources in the best long-term interests of the people and those resources", and

**WHEREAS:** under Harold W. Andersen's leadership, the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation raised tens of millions of dollars in support of the many Nebraska Game and Parks Commission projects and programs thereby providing a tremendous benefit to wildlife, fisheries and parks throughout Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen has left his imprint throughout Nebraska, as recognized and so honored by the naming of the Harold W. Andersen Wildlife Management Area near Dannebrog, the Fort Atkinson State Historical Park Visitor Center near Fort Calhoun, and cabins at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park near Ashland, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen personally explored and experienced Nebraska's outdoors, braving highly challenging weather conditions while partaking in numerous canoe, boating, fishing and hunting adventures on the Snake, Dismal, Niobrara, Platte, Republican and Missouri rivers and elsewhere; in the process creating a strong bond and commitment to Nebraska's great outdoors, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen while serving as President, Chief Executive Officer and Publisher of the Omaha World-Herald, informed and encouraged people to explore, appreciate and protect Nebraska's outdoor treasures through numerous articles and editorials such as advocating for the protection of the Niobrara River as a nationally critical ecological gem, providing weekly columns such as Tom Allen's Nebraska Byways, Fred Thomas' Conservation column and Gene Hornbeck and Larry Porter's Outdoors, sponsoring the Know Nebraska Tours and the Conservationist of the Year award, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen has strived throughout his life to create a better Nebraska, and has been honored and recognized with numerous awards and for his services and leadership to our great state, and

**WHEREAS:** Harold W. Andersen due to his tireless efforts has touched hundreds thousands of people's lives by helping create countless outdoor recreation opportunities for the citizens of Nebraska and has left a legacy for many generations to come,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Harold W. Andersen is hereby bestowed the title of Distinguished Fellow of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, on July 26, 2013, being the first ever recipient of the Commission's highest honor.

*James N. Douglas*  
James N. Douglas, Director of the Commission

*N. Mull*  
Norris Marshall, Chairman of the Commission

**NEBRASKA**  
— GAME & PARKS —



*The smiles of Tom Beachler, Andy Andersen and David Andersen reflect a delightful day afield. Kansas Spring Turkey season 2013.*



*The view from inside the hunting blind. May we all be blessed with Andy's spirit when we are 89.*