

Wisconsin



Joseph Albert Craig - Industrialist, Brought General Motors to Janesville, WI

In 1918, industrialist J.A. Craig brought General Motors to Janesville, where it employs thousands. But he said his greatest legacy was his work with 4-H. His contributions benefited thousands from local to national 4-H. As a volunteer, he organized 4-H clubs throughout Rock County. Craig promoted 4-H in cities before it was popular. When the county fairgrounds foreclosed during the Depression, he bought and donated the 47 acres to 4-H. Working with kids, Craig said, kept him young. He lived to be 91. He left behind a high school in his name and one of the strongest county 4-H programs in the country.

Hometown: Franklin, Pennsylvania

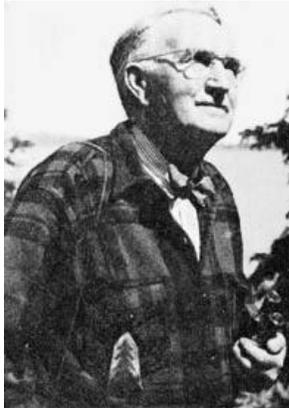
Nominated by: State 4-H Hall of Fame Selection Committee based on Lois Klusmeyer's Nomination

Year Inducted: 2002

"Take an interest in boys and girls and it will help keep you young," said J.A. Craig, who lived to age 91.

"There is none in the organization who knows the work better, who understands the philosophy and what it does for boys and girls than J.A. Craig. We call him the county 4-H agent without portfolio. He is also the national 4-H agent without portfolio."

- Kenneth Anderson representing National 4-H (1952)



Wakelin "Ranger Mac" McNeel - WI Superintendent of Schools

Chief of the Junior Forest Rangers; State 4-H Club Leader; Camp Upham Woods Superintendent; Professor of Extension Education, University of Wisconsin —Madison

Honors:

Recognized with Peabody Radio Award in 1942 for the outstanding educational program in the United States. This award for radio is the equivalent to an Oscar for film.

"May the Great Spirit put sunshine in your hearts, now and forever more. Heap much!" (This ended each radio program. There is a campfire version with hand motions, also.)

Hometown: Wisconsin Dells Area

Nominated by: State 4-H Hall of Fame Selection Committee, Frank Campbell Nominator

Year Inducted: 2002

"Aldo Leopold spent a couple of days on the island (Upham Woods) and made many valuable suggestions. He rejoiced in what he found, saying, 'Didn't know that such a spot existed in Wisconsin.' "

Wakelin McNeel spent a lifetime as friend of youth and nature. He was a popular school teacher, administrator (State Superintendent of Schools at age 22) and "chief" of Junior Forest Rangers. He served on the Wisconsin 4-H staff for 28 years, with six as state leader. McNeel broadcast a statewide radio program for school children. Over 21 years "Ranger Mac" inspired 700,000 listeners to conserve natural resources. "Afield with Ranger Mac" received a Peabody Award as the country's outstanding educational program. Through his leadership and influence, the Upham family donated 300 acres to 4-H. "Upham Woods" became a 4-H environmental education center that now reaches 10,000 youth each year.