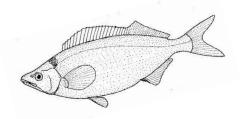
Ken Russell Background.pdf
Ken Russell Bridge Sign Draft.pdf



KEN RUSSELL BACKGROUND

Ken Russell of Wataga has served the State of Illinois and the citizens of Monmouth for over 50 plus years as a DNR district fisheries biologist manager working out of Galesburg. He has been well regarded by his peers for excellence in the field of fishery biologist, especially small lakes and pond management, where he is known as the true authority in the MIdwest. He has led over 1,000 educational workshops for the public and spoke to thousands of youngsters every year, much done on his own time. He was dedicated to the well-being of each pond and lake and the communities where they were located.

Through the years, he has made sure that Citizens Lake was well stocked and any issues with fish kill were addressed. He maintained the proper lake levels lowering the level in the Fall and raising it back in the Spring for the protection of the fish. In the summer he always found a way to obtain the proper chemicals for treating the weeds and algae even when there supposedly wasn't enough money for the State to provide the chemicals. He also assisted the FOP in setting up their annual Fishing Derby through his knowledge and contacts for providing fish.

He was instrumental in overseeing the moving of the Historic Bridge to Citizens Lake and when the oak floor boards had deteriorated to the point where there were holes that someone could fall through that had been patched temporarily, Ken was able to secure replacement lumber for the City and oversaw the installation of the new boards by the Public Works department. The City honored him in May of 2013 by presenting him with a "Service of Excellence Award" for his many years of dedicated service in his care and preservation of Citizens Lake.

Last year Ken suffered a massive brain bleed and lost the use of his left side as well as his ability to speak. He understands what is said to him, but is unable to respond. He is currently at Seminary Manor in Galesburg. His friend Max Leezer approached the City with a request to be able to place a sign on the Historic Bridge at Citizens Lake dedicating it as the Ken Russell Bridge. The payment of the sign would be handled through donations. The sign would be cut out of ¼" stainless steel. The total cost would be \$347.40. A rough draft is attached.



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