



Halbe Brown was honored as an inaugural inductee of Frost Valley's Hall of Fame.

## D. Halbe Brown

Those who have come to know the enchantment of Frost Valley also know that its success over the years is in no small part owing to the brilliance, dedication, flexibility, creativity, and capacious vision of **D. Halbe Brown**. He was brought by the trustees to Frost Valley to rescue a failing organization in the role as associate Executive Director; within a few short months he became our Executive Director, where he would lead by example for the next 35 years. From 1966-2001, with his wife Jane, Halbe took a struggling summer camp with few other programs and created a year-round camping and conference center enjoyed by 35,000 children and families each year. We are honored to pay tribute to this truly remarkable leader.

There is a man who for most of thirty-five years arose before dawn and looked in the same way toward the same lake for reflection. Its continuity, we can only surmise, gave him a sense of every day, of what could be done but also **what must be done** to preserve this site, and what it signifies, in honor of the principles that founded it, while at the same time making it possible for more people – children, families and communities – and more kinds of people, in new ways, to enjoy what he has enjoyed each morning, standing there, at his window, reflecting.

- from *FROST VALLEY, finding the way back*



Carol English accepts her father's award from Jerry Huncosky

## Woodruff J. "Woody" English

In his 37 years as a Frost Valley Trustee, many of those as Chairman, **Woodruff J. "Woody" English** gave generously of his time and energy to guide Frost Valley's growth and development. In 1985, Frost Valley named its Environmental Education Program in his honor. Woody's love of the outdoors was part of his family's legacy. Today the English family homestead is still a working farm and listed as a historic landmark in Liberty Corner, New Jersey ([www.english-farm.org](http://www.english-farm.org).) As Board Chairman during years of tremendous change, Woody was wise and decisive; his brilliant ideas for how Frost Valley should grow, develop, and increase its range of service rang as clearly as a bell - both in the way he lead, and in the foghorn-loud sound of his voice. When Woody spoke, we all listened. He was a leader through and through.

It is October. The woods are cool and the ropes on the course are stiff. Morning sunlight dapples ferns that have begun to turn brown. Normally at this time of the week and time of year she is at school, sitting at a desk. But here she spends five days

**learning in a whole different way.** She sees her teachers wearing jeans, and they themselves sometimes tumble off the course. When she completes it successfully, she is relieved-happy and tired-happy. She discovers that she is learning the environment but also that she is learning in the environment, and it feels like a thrilling combination.

- from *FROST VALLEY, finding the way back*



Eva Gottscho with Jerry Huncosky (left) and Jim Kellogg (right).

## Eva Gottscho

We honor **Eva Gottscho**, an unrelenting champion in the effort to provide treatment and bring normalcy to young people with kidney disease. Eva's determination, dedication, unmatched focus, and generous spirit led her to Frost Valley where she found a partner that shared her mission to help children and to provide them with the life-changing experience of summer camp. In 1975 the Eva Gottcho Foundation, in partnership with Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the National Association of Patients on Hemodialysis and Transplants, created the first ever kidney camp where children with chronic illness were mainstreamed into every part of the summer camp experience. A successful businesswoman who has turned her attention and resources to those in need, Eva has been an extraordinary effective promoter of the idea that a family is only as happy as its least healthy member.

So what then is the limit of experience? Is it the same as our capacity to experience, or beyond it? "The dialysis program has always reached far beyond the dialysis campers themselves," one former counselor remembers. "I worked with these children, and it has changed my life – and I suspect it also changed the lives of many others during those summers." Another recalls "At the end of the first session that the Dialysis Center operated in 1975, the parents of one of the campers arrived to take her home. They were sunburnt, dusty, and exhausted. Their car had the look of having been driven long and hard over the past two weeks. They were unbelievably glad to see their daughter, and she thanked, over and over, any staff member who came close. "That was the first vacation we've ever been able to take," they said. And another: "**He'd never walked more than a mile.** He'd never ridden a bike. He'd certainly never slept out under the stars. Yet we and he did all these things – and more. I've never forgotten his utter hold on life."

- from *FROST VALLEY, finding the way back*