

Lee Simmons awarded the Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation

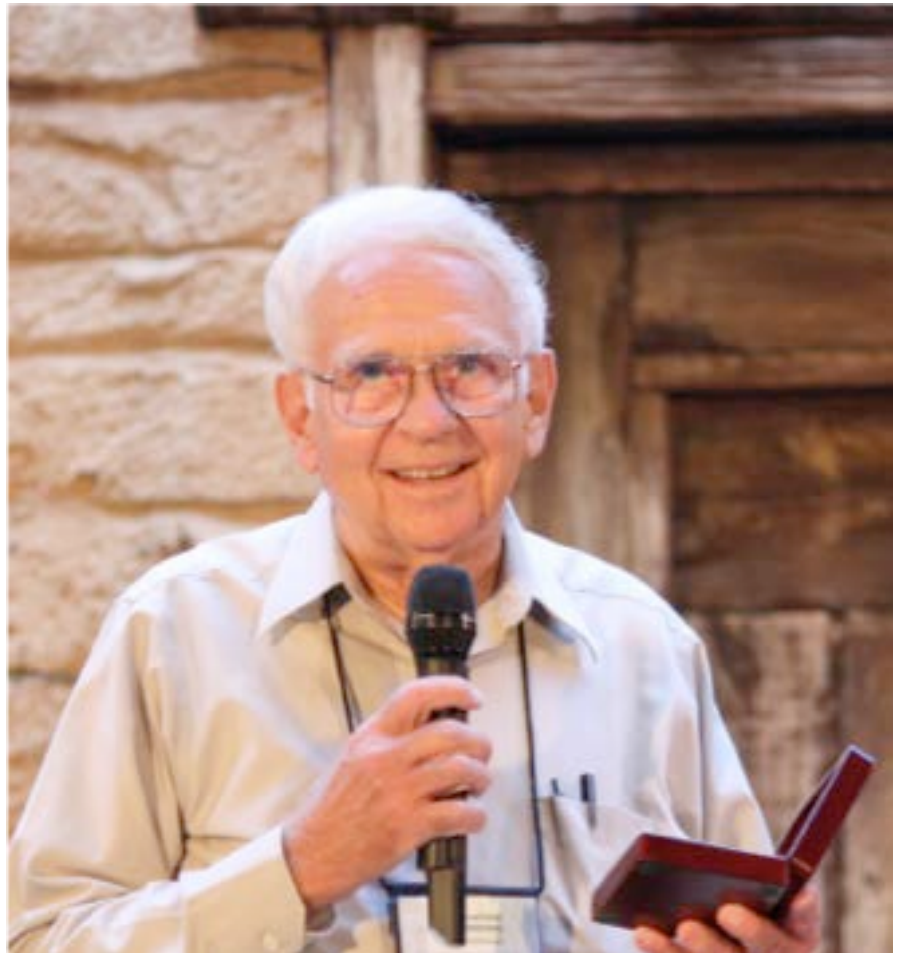
Decades-long friend, colleague and helper of Dr. Ulysses Seal, long term Chair of the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, IUCN, SSC, Dr. Lee Simmons collects a much deserved award. The award is given for dedication and innovation applied to wildlife conservation.

Dr. Simmons served much of his working life as the Director of Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium and is now still working as the Zoo and Aquarium Chairman.

The Award was presented on 16 October 2013 on the stage of Disney's Bird Show where the participants of CBSG and WAZA gathered to see the rightly vaulted Disney animal facilities.

Seal, after whom and in whose honour the award is named, was the founder and first Chair of the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group. Ulie, as most CBSG members called, was one of the world's most creative scientists in applying contemporary science to the conservation of wildlife. He enhanced his impact by finding, supporting and working with others on the same wave length.

Ulie was diagnosed with brain cancer what seems like a few months only before his death. He continued working as long as he felt he was useful and then retired



Dr. Lee Simmons accepts the U.S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation

to spend the rest of his days with his beloved family.

After his death CBSG created the Award in his honour which has served as a poignant reminder and an encouragement to those who have received the award.

Dr. Onnie Byers, CBSG Chair praised Simmons for loyalty to and admiration of Ulie as well as his own hard work for CBSG throughout these many years. Dr. Simmons said, "Of all the awards and honors it has been my good fortune to receive, this is very, very special and means a great deal to me because I had the good fortune to work closely with Ulie for 35 years on conservation projects in many sites in the United States and in more than a dozen countries."

Simmons' award was lovingly presented by Ulie's daughter and her two children.



Dr. Lee Simmons speaking about his experiences and gratitude to the CBSG audience as Rebecca, Maggie and Andy (Seal's kid & grandkids) look on lovingly.