

# VIKING SPORTSMEN CLUB 1999 OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONISTS

By Roy Roers, District Supervisor

The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors selected the Viking Sportsmen Club as the 1999 Outstanding Conservationists for Douglas County.

The sportsmen club was chosen for this award because of their continuous efforts to promote the wise use and development of our natural resources. Their list of accomplishments include many projects, education of youth through seniors, and activities which encourage citizens to appreciate and protect our vast resources.

Some of the projects taken on by the sportsmen are as follows: Building and maintaining fishing piers on Lakes Victoria, Geneva and Agnes; working on Lake Scaping projects on Lakes Gilbert and Latoka; donating 1000-5000 pheasant chicks annually to the Jr. Sportsmen, FFA and 4-H to raise and release; purchasing muskies for release; raising and releasing bass at the Bemo Pond; providing and maintaining handicap accessible docks at most public accesses in Douglas County; building approximately 500 bluebird houses to give to landowners; assisting the DNR in acquiring several key project sites on Lakes Mary and Little Latoka for carp trap and spawning areas; providing financial assistance to landowners for tree planting, wildlife habitat and food plots; and assisting as a lead sponsor for Chippewa/Long Prairie Headquarters Fish & Wildlife Improvement Project (Carp Control).

Educational activities that the sportsmen have been involved with include: Youth Firearm Safety; West Central Youth Habitat Day, Outdoor Expo, projects for the Jr. Viking Sportsmen; and the Fishing Day and meal for 250 senior citizens. Congratulations go out to the Viking Sportsmen Club!



**Viking Sportsmen Club Officers in front of the Harry Bemo Building.  
(Harry Bemo was the founder of the Sportsmen Club and was dedicated  
to protecting fish and wildlife).**