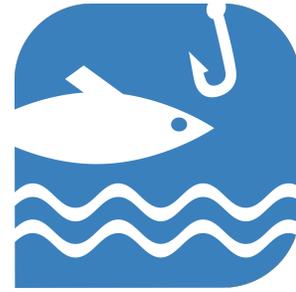


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The 2016 Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame Inductees

One of the many programs of the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame consists of recognizing individuals, organizations and institutions who have made significant and lasting contributions to the sport and heritage of freshwater fishing. The Hall of Fame Awards Committee meets annually in August to make their selections for the following year and after much deliberation there were 16 individuals and one organization inducted into the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame's 2016 year class.

North Dakota angler **Mort Bank** was the first individual to be inducted into North Dakota's Fishing Hall of Fame. He has caught nine world record fish with seven of those records a different species. Bank considers his greatest world record to be the 44 pound and 1 ounce muskellunge that was caught on six pound line. This world record was caught while fishing with Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Famer Al Lindner. He has written and published 5 books about fishing. Bank has written over 500 newspaper and magazine articles that are entirely about fishing. His articles have appeared in In-Fisherman, Fishing Facts, Sports Afield, Field & Stream, Dakota Country and North Dakota Outdoors. He has appeared on countless television and radio shows promoting fishing, and he was one of the early "pioneers" to promote "catch and release" fishing.

Greg Bohn hails from Wisconsin and his achievements are many. Bohn has spent his lifetime learning, developing, teaching and educating walleye anglers across the country. The knowledge, dedication and professionalism are undeniable. His 40 year contribution to the national walleye industry with promotion, education, tackle design, innovation and presentation techniques are truly pioneering. He is a world line-class walleye record holder in the catch and release division. He has been a pioneer in walleye tackle technology and presentation techniques for over 35 years. He designed, marketed and patented the first ever snag-proof walleye tackle products, while guiding on the snag infested waters of High Falls Reservoir and Turtle Flambeau Flowage. Many of Greg's original walleye tackle inventions and patents remain a large part of today's walleye tackle industry, some 30 years later. Bohn has authored books and has written over 150 feature articles and contributed to hundreds more. This is just the tip of the iceberg when describing Greg Bohn's legendary career in the fishing industry.

Dave Carlson, a well-known journalist from Wisconsin has over 35 years experience in television production and hosting, and over 10 years of newspaper experience. He was host of

three half-hour outdoor TV shows, “TV-13 Outdoors” and “Northland Journal” for WEAU-TV (Eau Claire) and Northland Adventures. His production schedule had him hosting more than 1,700 shows, averaging three segments apiece, for a total of more than 5,000 individual outdoor stories. “Northland Adventures” was eventually syndicated by Quincy Newspapers to 23 network-affiliated local broadcast stations in 12 Upper Midwest and Great Plains states. The quality of his work and the respect in which he is held by his peers and the outdoor world are evidenced by his many awards and achievements. Carlson has authored three books, “Moose Don’t Fly,” “The Way the Stick Floats,” and “A Fish Gift.” He has freelanced dozens of articles and been a contributing editor of Wisconsin Outdoor Journal. Dave is a journalism graduate of UW-Eau Claire (1971), and was awarded that university’s Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.

Few discussions take place regarding smallmouth bass in the Great Lakes that do not involve Ohio angler **Steve Clapper**. His tournament record spanning more than 30 years speaks for itself. He has been credited with “pioneering” offshore-structure smallmouth fishing, which includes not only tactics and tackle, but also equipment and boats. Many of his tactics were developed prior to the availability of GPS. Some of the methods and equipment used as standard practice today have been credited to him. His long track record of success and his genuine willingness to help other anglers has earned him respect from the ranks of both professional and amateur anglers.

Perry Good’s home base is Minnesota but he is a national champion in the realm of walleye fishing competition. He is one of the professional walleye fishing’s all-time winning anglers, pocketing more than 1 million dollars in tournament winnings. You see Good at many of the Midwestern sport shows and boat shows, yet he is one of the industry’s most-philanthropic anglers, donating a lifetime of gear, guide trips and maybe, most importantly, his time to make sure someone else has always had the opportunity to wet a line. Good has been a professional walleye angler for 30 years, earning 21 tournament wins, 60 top-ten finishes, the 1994 Professional Walleye Trail Champion (PWT) title and he is the only angler to qualify for every PWT championship. The Walleye In-Sider magazine labeled Good, “the highest-ranking pro of all time.”

Elmer Guerri from Indiana is a freelance outdoor writer with numerous features and publications under the byline “Outdoors with E”. He was host of an early period syndicated television series called, “Ol’ Bass Magic.” He has served as management consultant to the fishing tackle manufacturing industry, and he is the inventor and developer of the “Photo Finish” technique for applying lifelike color photographic images of forage fish to hard lures. Gerri has served as Regional Director for the North American Native Fishes Association and serves on the board of several archaeological and anthropological organizations and universities.

Jon Lyman has dedicated the last quarter century of his life to promoting freshwater and marine sport fishing in Alaska and several other western states. For 24 of these years he was an

Information Officer with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). His specialty at ADF&G, and the activity for which he will be long remembered, was aquatic education.

During his years with ADF&G Jon single-handedly developed local youth fishing days at several sites in Alaska and he has been very active in developing outdoor skills programs for 4-H and the Boy Scouts of America. Jon helped to develop Alaska's 4-H fly fishing mentorship program and was the statewide contact person for people interested in starting a fly fishing membership club. His 4-H program was given the American Fisheries Society-Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Best Program in Aquatic Education in 2006. He was awarded Educator of the Year by the Alaska Outdoor Council in 2000, and presented the award for Best Program in Aquatic Education, 4-H Outdoor Skills by the American Fisheries Society Association in 2006.

Steve McCadams from Tennessee has been one of the most successful and popular fishing guides on Kentucky Lake. McCadams ability to put his clients on fish is well-known, but he's a teacher, and an advocate for conservation as well. For 15 years, McCadams has been the guiding force behind the huge Casting For A Cure Kids Fishing Rodeo at Carroll Lake near McKenzie, Tennessee, which has the dual purpose of introducing boys and girls to the sport of fishing and calling attention to the need for cancer research. More than 300 youngsters attend each summer. For more than 20 years, McCadams has been the outdoor columnist at the Paris Post-Intelligencer newspaper in Paris, Tennessee. As a free-lance writer/photographer, he has had credits in Sports Afield, In-Fisherman, Outdoor Life, Crappie World and numerous other publications. He is in considerable demand as a seminar speaker, guest on radio and television shows and a reliable story source. McCadams has been inducted into the Legends of the Outdoors Hall of Fame in 2007, served as president of the Tennessee Outdoor Writers Association and the Southeast Outdoor Press Association.

Larry Myhre is an Iowa journalist who is considered one of the most prolific producers of outdoor material in the industry. He has been an outdoor columnist specializing in fishing for the Sioux City Journal, a daily newspaper with circulation in Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska, for the past 39 years. A journalism graduate of the University of South Dakota, Myhre began working at the Journal in 1966 as a reporter and retired as editor in 2007 after 18 years at the helm. He continues to serve as outdoors editor for the Journal, producing a full page of outdoor news in Thursday's paper and the paper's outdoor website. He also edits and writes for the Journal's bimonthly outdoor tabloid, Siouxland Outdoors, which is distributed free in the Journal's circulation area. For the past 36 years, he has been an active member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and also is a member of the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers. He is affiliated with Outdoorsmen Productions, a publishing and television production company headed by Gary Howey at Hartington, Nebraska. He serves as cameraman and co-host on the Outdoorsmen Adventures television show. As a freelance writer, he has been published in Fur-Fish-Game, Fly Fisherman, Fins and Feathers, Outdoor Life, Iowa Game and Fish and Great Plains Game and Fish magazines.

John Neporadny from Missouri is a full-time free-lance writer specializing in freshwater fishing. His articles have been published in Field & Stream, Outdoor Life, BASSMASTER,

B.A.S.S. Times, Fur-Fish-Game, North American Fisherman, Fishing Facts, In-Fisherman, CRAPPIE World, Crappie Journal, BASSIN' and other national and regional outdoor publications. He is also the author of The Lake of the Ozarks Fishing Guide. Neporadny is the originator and main driver behind Missouri's high school bass fishing classes and teams. He has been personally responsible for many high schools offering team opportunities and other factors of this important program. John has definitely contributed to the future of fishing through these programs. Neporadny began free-lance writing on a part-time basis in 1991 when he had his first article published in BASSMASTER Magazine. The University of Missouri School of Journalism graduate left a newspaper editor position in 1993 to become a full-time free-lance writer specializing in freshwater fishing.

Pete Olson's career may have been as a high school coach and teacher in the Madison, Wisconsin, Metropolitan School District, but Coach Olson's life passion was fishing. He initiated the first full semester fishing course in the school system. The course was an elective physical education offering in the "lifetime sports" curriculum for junior and senior students. He taught the course for twenty years and gave many students their first opportunity to have practical experience with fishing equipment. The emphasis was on catch and release fishing for game fish. As a member of Muskies Inc. since 1980 he has released over 900 muskies over 30 inches. He was involved in the first tagging program to determine the effects of catch and release on mortality. When the program proved successful he continued to tag on his own. He has tagged over 600 muskies. He has kept detailed records of all tagged fish, including location, date, length of fish and other various weather statistics for each tagging. This has allowed him to keep track of growth rates, fish movements and various other statistics. He has recaptured fish up to 7 times. His success proves catch and release to be an effective tool to better the fishery. Currently, Mr. Olson's vast amount of data is being used by several different state conservation agencies.

Steve Quinn is a certified fishery scientist who worked in that capacity in New York and Georgia until 1988, when he became an In-Fisherman editor, the first ever fishery scientist to hold such a position at a major sportfishing magazine. As a fishery scientist working as a writer and editor in the heart of the fishing industry for more than 25 years, he helped to revolutionize how scientific information was shared with the larger angling public. Not only is he an outstanding writer and a superb editor, he has also shared his knowledge on television and continues to play a role as a fishery scientist in the scientific community, authoring papers, serving on committees and giving talks. He is a well known highly respected member of the sport fishing industry.

Gil Radonski is a scientist and a policy advocate from North Carolina. He has proven himself to be a leading expert on the conditions and needs of fisheries in the United States. He served as Executive Secretary of the Sports Fishing Institute (SFI) starting in 1975, and became that organization's President in May 1981, a position he held until May 1994. He led SFI's successful efforts to translate the resource needs of fisheries into public policy initiatives. SFI was very influential in the passage of a National Recreational Fisheries Policy, and the Wallop-Breaux amendments to the Federal Aid in Sports Fishing Restoration Act. Radonski served on the Board

of Directors of the Year of the Ocean Foundation in Washington, D.C. was on the Operating Committee of the Living Lakes Foundation in Washington, D.C. is the past Chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America and served on the Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Foundation. Radonski holds a degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from the University of Minnesota, where he also performed graduate studies in Fisheries Research.

LeRoy Ras is a well-known Minnesota fishing guide, but he is also a fishing educator and great full time ambassador for the sport. He has been a reliable resource for fishing information for many decades and was on the cutting edge of many of the fishing techniques and products that came out of the 70's and 80's. It is also worth noting that LeRoy is a student of fisheries and resource management and shares that information with clients and other industry professionals. He has a huge regard for the resource and continually practices and teaches respect for the environment as it relates to all fish and wildlife. He is very much a fishing "legend" not only throughout the Alexandria, Minnesota lakes area; but far and wide throughout the Midwest. Ras was inducted into the Minnesota Fishing Hall of Fame in 2015.

Who knows where we might be restricted to fish today without the tireless work of Kentucky resident and county executive **Wade White**. Here was a man charged with the numerous responsibilities required to manage Lyon County's executive branch in western Kentucky yet it was "Judge" White who worked tirelessly to keep the prized fishing waters accessible below Cumberland River dams in Kentucky and Tennessee. In 2012 he learned that the Nashville District Corps of Engineers Office had plans to barricade access to fishing below all dams on the Cumberland River system, including the tributary reservoirs that help supply this freshwater habitat with fishing opportunities admired by anglers nationwide. While hundreds of people from all walks of life opposed this unexplainable closure—consisting of a well-represented group of fishermen—one person stood out for his determination to stop the stubborn tactics of someone wielding lots of power, but with no ties to Kentucky or Tennessee's fishing heritage. Judge White made countless telephone calls and traveled wherever needed to gain support for continued fishing access. He did numerous television, newspaper and radio interviews. He updated elected representatives frequently and with the help of the Freedom of Information Act collected hundreds of pages of proof that the commander's arguments were unfounded and even specious. In the summer of 2013, the Freedom to Fish Act was passed by congress and made law due to the tenacity of Wade White.

O'Neill Williams from Georgia began his media program in 1982 with the "Metro Channel Sports Fishing Report" as host and co-producer. This was a fifteen minute report taped and aired via local cable throughout greater Atlanta. Rapidly expanding the level of interest, coverage and sponsorships to producing and hosting shows under the following names "Fishing in Georgia," "Southern Fishing" and finally to "O'Neill Outside," O'Neill's television program in 2015 airs multiple times weekly on Destination America Network, Pursuit Channel, FOX SportSouth, Sun Sports in Florida, and FOX Arizona for a total household subscriber's total of over 127,000,000. 2015 marks the 34th season of O'Neill's programs on national television fifty-two weeks per

year. “O’Neill Outside” delivers a weekly television audience of over 300,000; one of the very highest Nielsen rated national outdoor shows. In 1992, O’Neill started “The Great Outdoor Show” radio program on station WGST-AM in Atlanta. Recognizing the popularity and reputation of delivering an audience, WSB-AM750 Radio recruited O’Neill and started his weekend show at WSB, one of only twenty-one clear channels airing at 50,000 watts 24-hours per day in the United States. Changing the name in the late 90’s to match his television show, “O’Neill Outside,” the show is now heard live over 38 states each Saturday morning and has an audience of over 400,000 anglers and hunters.

Since 1984, the **Masters Walleye Circuit** MWC has set the standard for team walleye tournament fishing. Each season, this event visits the finest walleye fisheries at peak fishing times to give the MWC teams the best possible experience during pre-fishing and competition. Fisheries conservation and teaching kids to fish are cornerstones of the Masters Walleye Circuit foundation. And each season, the MWC Conservation Fund and Youth and Family Fishing Clinics help bring fishing to many who might not get the opportunity to sample this sport. Since 1984, the MWC Conservation Fund has generated more than \$350,000 for fisheries conservation projects in states where their tournaments are held. Monies are derived from a \$15-per-boat contribution from the MWC and the anglers, and distributed to state fisheries agencies, walleye clubs, and other community organizations. To encourage the next generation of anglers, the Cabela’s MWC holds a Youth and Family Fishing Clinic at each tournament. MWC anglers and representatives of the National Professional Angler’s Association volunteer their time to teach kids and their parents about fishing. The MWC and their sponsors also donate products including rods, reels and tackle to help get these budding anglers’ fishing careers off to a great start.

Congratulations to all who were inducted into the 2016 class of Freshwater Fishing Hall of Famers.