

2003 Inductee

Charles Edward Langston



When you ask most archers in the NFAA that competed at a national level during the 1980's, you would be hard pressed to find any that has never heard of Charlie Langston. From 1978 to 1989 Charlie won an astounding 8 national championships. Though known for his achievements as a tournament archer, Charlie will tell you he was a bowhunter first and a tournament archer second.

Charlie hunted with his bow for years, but it wasn't until 1978 that Tim Whiteford, of Viking Archery, told Charlie he should try competing in a "spot" tournament. Charlie said it sounded interesting and headed for the TFAA State Tournament in Abilene. Charlie finished second that year in BHFSL, which was all it took to get him hooked on shooting the "spots". The fact that he finished in second place was enough to dig out this competitor that wasn't going to take anything but first place for a long time to come.

In 1979 Charlie started winning everything from State to Sectionals to Nationals, wherever he was shooting he was winning. It wasn't long before he had separated himself from the guy that was winning, to the guy that was the master, breaking all the records. He set 6 TFAA records for BHFSL and FSL, /of which 5 are still standing. At one time he held all the NFAA records for Pro BHFSL and BHFSL. His shooting abilities were second to none.

Over the next 10 years Charlie devoted himself to the sport of tournament archery. At times he would spend 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, shooting and tuning his bow in preparation for tournaments. When tournament season started, it was common to see Charlie at an invitational competing both days of a one-day tournament. One day in his class, BHFSL, and one day in FSL, never changing his set up, just shooting with his pins and fingers. He would win in both classes and most of the time beat the majority of all the rest of the shooters in the other classes.

Charlie's list of championships includes the following:

- 8 National Championships
- 1 World Championship
- 8 Texas State Championships
- 2 Florida State Championships
- 1 Louisiana State Championship
- 1 California State Championship
- 14 Southern Sectional Championships
- 3 Southeast Sectional Championships
- 3 Fresno Safari Championships

Charlie's championships speak for themselves when it comes to his abilities as a competitor. As for his personal side, I would say he was very humble individual and an ideal choice for the TFAA Hall of Fame. Charlie told me several stories about the great archers with whom he had shoot with and the things they use to say about him. However he told me the greatest

compliment he had ever received was just being called by his first name, Charlie, by the late, great, Fred Bear.

Ladies and Gentlemen it is my pleasure to introduce one of the 2003 TFAA Hall of Fame Inductees, Charlie Langston

(Charlie was nominated to the Hall of Fame by Bill Bowen.)