

2005 Inductee
Lee Gregory



On February 21, 1998 I walked onto the floor of the Madd Cobb Convention Center in Longview, Texas. It was getting late and most of those who had been practicing had already gone back to their hotel rooms. At one end of the shooting line were a couple young guys and about half way down on the right end was a man who was obviously many years my senior. I watched as he gracefully pulled back his bow with the skill of an archer who knew what he was doing. Then I almost laughed out loud when I saw him place his finger close to the trigger and start shaking like only those of us who have had target panic can shake. I had replaced my finger tab with a release trying to get over the target panic I had so I knew what he was going through. I looked again at the young guys on the left and decided to go practice next to the old man on the right end of the line.

We shot our arrows and as we walked down to pull them I introduced myself and said something like "How long have you had target panic?" Little did I know, that introduction was the beginning of friendship that I look back on with pride.

Soon our conversation moved from how poorly we were shooting to the Texas Field Archery Association board meeting that had just dismissed. I told my new acquaintance, Lee Gregory, that I had just been appointed Editor of the Texas Field Archery News letter. I told him I was not yet sure what all I was up against, the current editor was going to publish one last newsletter and then I was on my own. Without any detail of his past involvement, Lee told me he had served on the board before himself and in fact his printing company had published the TFAN in the past. He gave me a business card and said to give him a call if I ever needed any help. I walked over to another friend of mine, Carolyn Cotten who had agreed to do the actual work of the editor if I would serve on the board and compile the material. I said, "Carolyn, I might have found us a printing company."

A few days after I got back home I made a call to then President John Wood and asked him who he had used to print the TFAN back when he was the editor and what the price per page had been. He gave me the information and then let the cat out of the bag; the editor also had to put the mailing address labels and stamps on the newsletter before mailing them. I had persuaded Carolyn to do the layout work but I knew the licking and sticking was going to be my job! I called Lee, reminded him who I was and asked if he would give me a bid to print the TFAN. His price per page was lower than what John had been pay a few years earlier. So I asked him how he would get the newsletters to me after he had printed them so I could put on the labels and stamps. He said something like, "This isn't Kinko's, and so I will print the address and postage on the front cover and mail them from my office." My new acquaintance was instantaneously elevated to friend! Through the years I have learned that Lee Gregory will always do more than asked of him and then act like he has done nothing.

As most of you know the Texas Field Archery Hall of Fame system recognizes that there are several ways people can distinguish themselves enough to be nominated for the HOF. The current HOF Members are a good representation of Champion Archers, Dedicated Servants, Successful Hunters and Influential Business People in the archery industry. Although the records show that Lee Gregory has been very successful as a competitor, winning three state championships, one in adult freestyle and two in senior freestyle, he is appreciated most for the unselfish work he has done while both on and off of the TFAA Board.

I often hear some of our older archers discuss the good and the bad of TFAA archery today versus the way it is the quote - unquote good-old days. You see it does not matter what period of archery you think was the best, as long as you don't go back more than 33 years, Lee was there. Do the math; Lee joined TFAA at age 10!

As much as I respect the ones who served TFAA in the 60's and 70's and as much as I appreciate those who served when TFAA was at its peak in membership, to me their service must take a backseat to someone like Lee Gregory who has faithfully stayed involved in TFAA through thick and thin. He was on the board when things were great. He was on the board when Jackie Lewis stole at least \$40,000 from the TFAA bank accounts and he was on the board when our membership started dropping as more and more clubs started shooting only 3d. But most important he was again willing to take a leading roll, serving TFAA both as a board member and as a non board member during the recent years as we were rebuilding.

Lee served as a TFAA Field Governor for 14 years; he has represented TFAA at the National meeting as a Director or proxy three times. He is a past President of Tejas Field Archery Club in Corpus Christi and Austin Archery Club in Austin. He has served as the Publicity Chairman of Williamson County Archery Club where he was honored with a lifetime membership. Lee has been on the shooting staff of Viking, Olympus and Hoyt Archery. He is a certified instructor and in the words of his wife Dena, a slow learner, he has also owned two archery shops; Maverick Archery in Corpus Christi and Archery World in Austin Texas.

In 1985 Lee got out of the archery business and moved to Georgetown where he opened D & L Printing. Lee has been a member of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce for 20 years serving as Director for 3 years. He was the recipient of the first Presidential Service Award ever given in 1994. He has been a member of Project Share of Georgetown serving as Director since 1992. As a member of the Sertoma Club of Georgetown, Lee has served as Sergeant at Arms, served on the Flag Program and also on Georgetown's 150th Anniversary Committee. Do the math; Lee was not age 10 when Georgetown became a city!

With a resume like that no doubt Lee should be a member of several organizations Hall of Fame. With 45 and counting, Lee has more than enough points in shooting and service to go into the TFAA Hall of Fame. In fact his HOF award says he is being inducted for shooting accomplishments and service to the TFAA Board. But let me tell you why I nominated him for the HOF. It had nothing to do with the many years he served as Field Governor or the State Championships he has won shooting freestyle. If Lee had joined TFAA for the first time the day before I met him in Longview he would still be deserving of this honor. Since that day, no one

has taken on more responsibilities or done more to help with the rebuilding of Texas Field Archery Association.

SINCE 1998, LEE GREGORYS HAS:

- Printed 60 Texas Field Archery News Letters, never raising the cost
- Added Color to the TFAN for no extra cost in October 2001
- Added Full Color to the TFAN for no extra cost in November 2003
- Always moved our work to the front so we could meet deadlines
- Led Williams County Archery Club in building a 14 target field range to host SYWAT and Top Gun events
- Located, Negotiated the space and hosted five State Indoor Tournaments and One Sectional Indoor Tournament
- Located, Negotiated the space and hosted four Hall of Fame Banquets
- Picked Up, Stored, Delivered and helped set up targets for 8 TFAA State sponsored tournaments
- Directed 3 TFAA Raffles raising thousands of dollars
- Served at District 6 Field Governor from July 2002 to May 2003
- Served as NFAA Director from June 03 to August 2004
- Served as Southern Sectional Councilman from September 2004 till now

(Lee was nominated to the Hall of Fame by Ande Rushing.)