

Darnell,

Jerry Wayne Hargis could fit into all the categories for the Hall of Fame.

3-event skier, North Carolina Ski Pioneer and also a N.C. Water Skiing Official one of the Founding Fathers of the A.B.C. Ski Mites.

Jerry & Fred attended there first tournament a non-sanction one at Tar River Sponsored by Tar River Ski Club which was Sarvis Bass and Lewis Fields some of those that are still around.

Jerry spent most of his time promoting the sport writing articles for the local Angier Paper (See Attached Articles)

Where Jerry worked hard to promote the Sport for years before becoming part of the Water Ski industry.

Water Ski Club of Angier March 22, 1975 when the first organization meeting was held. Along with his wife Brenda and their special friends Fred & Patricia Wade.

The second meeting on May 11th 1975. The Club decided on a name The ABC-Ski Mites ABC standing for Angier-Buies Creek. The officers were elected Jerry Hargis was the first President in May 1975.

The Club attended its first sanctioned AWSA Tournament at Eastern NC Open at Edenton sponsored by the Pembroke Water Ski Club where Jerry participated in all three events in Men II Slalom, Trick and Jump. Which was his very first experience jumping in a tournament or practice. You must hear him tell the story along with meeting our long time friend Jerry Stansberry from the Eastern Region.

From his tournament on the club and it members continued to attend tournament on to the 2nd Annual Virginia Beach Open June 5, 1975 where Jerry & Ricky Lipscomb skied in all three events. From Virginia Beach on to Petersburg in August the members were all hooked on this sport.

At this time practice was done at Panther Lake. September 1975 twenty-five members attended the 2nd Annual Tar River Tournament with eight members bring home a total of thirteen trophies. Jerry was 1st in Men 2 jumps.

By October 1975 with the promotion the clubs membership had risen to 41 members..

In the spring of 1975 the first Judges Clinic was held at Youngs Pond co-ordinated by Jerry with Jeff Clark, Jack Walker and Beth Brown.

The local paper helped Jerry promote the sport. In December 1975 we had a float in the Angier Christmas Parade (See Attached Picture)

In January 1976 the Ski Mites had located a new home at Youngs Pond! With much work ahead and this is where they remained until the EPA decided the dam needed much work and the owner was not willing to spend that kind of money.

Tournaments continued being a part of his life skiing 3 events. Jerry skied in the first N.C. State Championship in July 24-25th 1976 at Rocky Mount; Tar River ski club sponsored the tournament. Jerry won 2nd place in Men II Slalom and 1st in Jumping.

Jerry continued promoting the sport with ABC Ski Mites participating in the July 4th Parade.

Then with much surprise Angier Club, Tar River & Edenton Club got the 1977 Southern Regional tournament held at Young's Pond.

Jerry was founder & President of the Ski Mites. He skied 3 events and active in tournaments until 1990. When he broke his hip.

He became one of the first 3 event regular judges in North Carolina in 1976.

In February 1979 Jerry became the 2nd Senior 3 event Judge in N.C. Al Broullard was the first. He continued working local and Regionals along with Nationals skiing 3 events as well. He was appointed at Regionals as well as assistant Chief Judge in Mulberry. He was appointed Announcer at the Nationals & Regionals. National In DeQuien ILL & Alabama for Regionals.

Jerry was on the Southern Regional Council REP for N.C. from 1979 to 1985.

In 1985 thru 1992 Jerry was the first National Director from the Southern Region to be elected director without being EVP first. Elected as an Honorary AWSA NCB for life in 1992.

Jerry was the first promotional Boat Coordinator for North Carolina with Correct Craft Boats from 1979 to 1996.

Jerry worked for Overton's Watersports for over 13 years helping to promote 3 event skiing in every way he could. He gave contributions to all the different clubs with in the state of North Carolina and Junior Development. He also helped water skiers gain sponsorships. Promoted the sport in other events such as Nascar. Helped in bringing the

U.S. Open & Regionals back to North Carolina. Worked with companies such as Jobe Waterskis to help develop skis, gloves and other items.

Even after becoming injured in 1990 he never gave up his love of the sport and people. He continued to promote the sport, work tournaments as a Senior in all 3 events and helped juniors and adults become better skiers.

In 2002 Jerry came back to the sport as a skier. He slalomed in a tournament in fall 2002. In 2003 while Training for slalom, trick and a jump comeback he broke his ankle during practice. While trying to come back in the fall of 2003 he broke his leg in a freak accident and has put his skis back in the closet, but kept his officials hat on.

We feel that Jerry Wayne Hargis is a Nominations for the Hall of Fame he fits any one of the class to be one.

Thanks

Tammy H. Thomas and Johnny Thomas and Baby Thomas

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Continued as Regional Council until 2016
When he decided some of the younger one needed help
Continued working tournaments until
2017. The day he passed away he talked
tournaments & was planning for the summer
of 2017. He gave 110% until the end!

2018
Brenda
Hargis

From: Brenda Hargis (bhargisncsu@earthlink.net)

To: tammyhthomas@yahoo.com;

Date: Thu, July 14, 2011 2:59:23 PM

Cc:

Subject: Jerry

At the 1984 State Chamiponships your DAD was the Overall Champion as well as setting a state record in Sr. Men Jumping of 108 feet. He also held an assistant driver but gave it up for judging. He was the first National Director elected to the board without being EVP of the Region first. He served e terms and is now an honorary Vice President on the Nationa Board of AWSA. He had a dream and worked hard to see it come true. 2011 will the 36th State Championship and Jerry has attended every single one. I have attended all but one which was in 1999 and I got a better deal I got to go to Italy instead, but I missed all of you!Ha! attending Mike Smith's late. I guess there is to much to tell but again in 2011 Jerry is an appointed Judge .