

2012 Honorary Lifetime Member Awards

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Steve Sheaffer

Steve was born in Laramie, Wyoming in 1952, from a hunting and fishing family. Steve spent countless hours fishing and hunting with his father and grandfather. They were incredible mentors as to savoring the great outdoors, but doing it safely and with caution. Steve has only missed two hunting seasons in Wyoming in his entire life, to play on two State Championship Football teams at Laramie High School. After High School Steve attended the University of Wyoming for two years. While at the University of Wyoming he met his wife and partner for life, Corrine (Cory). They have been happily married for thirty eight years and have two wonderful daughters, Rebecca Grommon and Ramona Moody. Steve and Cory have three grandchildren. They have always worked as one, when it came to business and financial decisions. Their first business was a sign business in Laramie, they worked it for thirteen years until Laramie had a failing economy, and getting paid for their work was near impossible. Cory had gone to work for the University of Wyoming and Steve was looking for something new. Steve suggested to Cory about guiding hunters and fishermen. Cory said "Go ahead and give it a try, you're gone hunting and fishing all the time anyway, make a living out of it." That was the start of their adventure.

Their first outfitting business was in North West Montana. They bought into an existing business that was very poorly run. They added a boat to the business and guided Lake Trout and Bull Trout charters on Flathead Lake for three summers. Their spring bear hunts were good, but their elk hunts were not. Steve told his Montana business partner, "that we can't continue to take money from these people and never produce." His Montana business partner didn't care, and it created problems. Steve closed the business and headed back to Wyoming.

Steve immediately took the Outfitters Test and started up in Wyoming. They ran two tent camps for about seven years. At this time they were able buy a lodge and house at Arlington, Wyoming. It steadily grew into a great business and lifestyle. They added additional cabins and outbuildings. Although License Draws were difficult they found a way to make it work. They primarily lived off of Cory's salary, allowing their business to grow. They invested in old apartments in Laramie, refurbished them and re-invested in additional apartments and commercial real estate.

Early in their Wyoming outfitting career they joined the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association. It was a difficult time for a few years, as Eastern and Southern Outfitters were not looked at very seriously by most members. Steve

was eventually elected to the Board of Directors and proudly served for many, many years. They have always been proud to be members, and sincerely believe they helped bridge the gap between North/South/East/West Outfitters. Steve was elected president of WYOGA for two terms in 2002, and 2003. As a Board Member and President, Steve was a good liaison between the Outfitters, Wyoming Game and Fish, Legislature and Wyoming sportsmen. Steve believed in trying to better the outfitting industry for everyone's benefit.

In 2010, after 25 years of outfitting, they decided to sell their business to Tyler and Elise Sims. Tyler guided for them for several years, and is a fine young gentleman. Their clients and great friends will be well taken care of.

Steve and Cory have retired to Yoder, Wyoming (where in the hell is Yoder?) They have invested heavily in the area buying two farms and a small ranch. Steve and his grandkids are able to hunt and fish for Trout, Bass, Walleye, Pheasants, Turkey, Geese, Ducks, Sharp Tails, Antelope, Deer, and Elk all on their own land. Steve has been blessed to have a great friend and business partner in his spouse Cory. The most important things in Steve's life are his wife, family, outfitting business and WYOGA. Steve is most appreciative to be nominated for Honorary Lifetime Member. Steve wants to thank Todd Stevie, President and the entire WYOGA Board for this Great Honor. You have become close friends for life!!!! You are always welcome to come visit, we can have a good talk while sitting in a heated Goose Blind, flushing a wild rooster, or calling in a big spring gobbler. 🦌



Gregg Fischer

I first came to Alpine, Wyoming in 1969. I knew right away that this was home for me and that I would make my life in the wild outdoors of Alpine and the Grey's River drainage. Guiding, outfitting, trapping, and taxidermy have been my business and means of survival.

I guided for Bud Callahan in the Grey's River from 1974 til 1980 when I purchased Lou Gardner's outfitting camp up at Deadman Creek. I rebuilt the camp and turned it into a more modern and convenient place for my clients. In 2000, my dreams were almost destroyed by a wild fire that surrounded the perimeter of my camp. By the graces of God my camp survived the fire.

In that same year, I went to Alaska on a hunt of a lifetime to hunt caribou. During my time in Alaska my life changed drastically after I was mauled by an Alaskan Arctic Grizzly bear. I spent 20 days in the hospital and underwent three operations to repair the damage done to my leg. Following my stay in the hospital, I was interviewed by the Discovery Channel about my grizzly bear mauling and my experience was explained in a book entitled "Bear Attacks of the Century".

From 2000-2005, I still did some outfitting/guiding in northeastern Wyoming. Blessed with boundless energy, it took a grizzly mauling to slow me down, but a bad horse wreck and a hip replacement in 2005 finally ended my guiding career of 30 years and left me with permanent pain and disability.

The outfitting and guiding industry and the outdoors have been my life! I want to thank WYOGA for this award and for all the work you have done throughout the years for all the outfitters and guides. I also want to thank the Wyoming Game & Fish and the State Board of Outfitters for their service, and thanks to the US Forest Service and the BLM for making it possible. Thank you to Dustin Child and Lynn Madsen for nominating me for this award.

As a final note, I lived the life I wanted, and even now that I'm old I wouldn't change a thing. 🦌

