



LEFT TO RIGHT: *Craig Tucker, Jeff Hinshaw, Les Torrans, Jim Tidwell*

## WAS AND USAS AWARDS AT AQUACULTURE 2019

### CRAIG TUCKER HONORED BY WAS AND USAS

At the 50th Annual Meeting of WAS in New Orleans, Craig Tucker was awarded the Honorary Life Member by WAS and the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award by the USAS. Dr. Tucker is the only person ever to be honored with all three of the World Aquaculture Society's highest professional awards: Distinguished Service Medal (2001), Fellow of WAS (2017) and now Honorary Life Member. The Honorary Life Member award is made to an individual making longstanding and significant contributions to global aquaculture. Recently he also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Humboldt State University (2018) and the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Auburn University College of Agriculture (2017).

Along with Claude Boyd, Craig Tucker is considered to be the world's premier warmwater pond water quality expert, as well as a leading expert on channel catfish biology, management, and production. Dr. Tucker currently serves as Research Leader, USDA-ARS Warmwater Aquaculture Research Unit in Stoneville, MS. He is Professor Emeritus, Mississippi State University, former Director of the USDA-NIFA Southern Regional Aquaculture Center and former Director of the Thad Cochran National Warmwater Aquaculture Center.

His research interests have evolved over the years, and now include developing new pond-based production systems, environmental management practices for pond aquaculture and control of pre-harvest off-flavors in pond-grown fish. In addition to numerous substantial contributions to the aquaculture research literature and to identifying solutions to major aquaculture industry problems, Dr. Tucker has provided invaluable service and contributions to WAS. Foremost among these was his service as Managing Editor of the Journal of the World Aquaculture Society from 1994 to 2001, a period during which the journal grew in breadth and scope and became recognized as a premier aquaculture scientific journal.

### WAS NAMES JEFF HINSHAW AS WAS FELLOW

Dr. Jeff Hinshaw is Professor and Extension Specialist in North Carolina. Jeff is one of the leading trout experts in the U.S. and certainly considered a primary source of extension assistance for the U.S. trout industry. Jeff has served in seven different positions for the U.S. Trout Farmers Association, including President and Chairman of the Board. He has contributed his time, expertise, and administrative skills throughout his career to WAS in a variety of capacities. These include 11 different WAS positions that range from committee assignments to serving as WAS President, with service from 1995 to 2015. He also has served the USAS, serving in seven different

positions and committees from 2001 to the present, including service as Chapter President.

### USAS PRESENTS DISTINGUISHED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO LES TORRANS

The USAS Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes individuals who have made contributions and broad impacts throughout their career to U.S. aquaculture through research, education, extension, and/or industry development. This award recognizes a long-time commitment of service to aquaculture that is deemed highly significant and enduring.

Dr. Les Torrans is currently ARS Research Fishery Biologist at the Warmwater Aquaculture Research Unit, Stoneville, MS. He was Director at the USFWS, Southeastern Fish Cultural Laboratory (AL) and joined the USDA Agricultural Research Service 20 years ago. He has served as a consultant for FAO and USAID for aquaculture projects in 21 countries in Africa and Asia. He is regarded as one of the nation's preeminent specialists in oxygen physiology and aeration in fish culture and his research in those areas profoundly impacted catfish hatchery and pond management. In short, his work changed the way catfish are grown, with significant increases in productivity and production efficiency. He has received numerous catfish industry and national awards for his research and technology transfer. He is also an award-winning photographer, with much of his work reflecting the beauty of aquaculture.

### USAS PRESENTS DISTINGUISHED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO JIM TIDWELL

Dr. Jim Tidwell is known for developing and leading a very strong aquaculture program at Kentucky State University. It has expanded exponentially, developing new areas of research, undergraduate degrees, and gained accreditation for a Master's degree program under his direction. Jim's multiple research interests include two focus species: freshwater prawns and largemouth bass. His freshwater prawn research led to development of an industry in KY, IL, OH and other surrounding states and a co-authored book on their culture. He also started a program on largemouth bass culture and has a comprehensive book coming out soon. His research has spawned an industry for largemouth bass in KY and surrounding states.

Most importantly, he has been a great mentor to students and colleagues. Jim has also been heavily involved in both USAS and WAS serving on many committees and ultimately President of each Society.