

**Jerry D. “Chuck” Woodson**

**2018**

**Chuck served 11 years in the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Education Division as the Arkansas Youth Shooting Sports Program State Coordinator.  Chuck started the program in the fall of 2006 and was told that if he could get 20 coaches and 200 student athletes, the program would be considered a success.  During that season, he had 125 coaches and 918 student athletes.  When he retired in 2017, the program had over 850 coaches and approximately 5900 student athletes.**

**Throughout his 11-year tenure, he was responsible for organizing and facilitating Regional and State AYSSP Tournaments, Junior Olympic State Qualifier Matches, and Arkansas State Collegiate Tournaments where approximately 58,000 athletes participated in shotgun shooting sports, not including all the friends, family, spectators, and employees.**

**Chuck worked closely with counties and schools throughout Arkansas to help develop local ranges for students to practice and hold small level competition shoots.  He also worked closely with the Arkansas State FFA to begin an annual FFA State Shoot.**

**AYSSP became the starting block for many young athletes across Arkansas to achieve great success in all levels of trapshooting, whether in American or International Trap.  There are many athletes who have had the opportunity to travel all over the country and even to other countries around the world.  The program also opened up the opportunity for foreign exchange students visiting**

**Arkansas schools to participate in a sport while here, where in most cases firearms were outlawed in their home countries.**

**Chuck worked closely with the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation, state representatives, city engineers, and the director of Jacksonville Parks and Recreation toward the development and design of the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation Shooting Sports Complex in Jacksonville.**

**Chuck was responsible for organizing the first ever Arkansas Junior Olympic Shotgun State Qualifier at Remington Gun Club.  It was moved to the Delta Resort and Spa in 2012 due to Chuck actively pursuing and encouraging the owner, Gary Gibbs, to build five international trap bunker ranges.  In the fall of 2014, Chuck mediated the very first meeting between USA Shooting Executive Director Robert Mitchell and Gary Gibbs to have the first ever USA National Shooting Match to be held in Arkansas.  To date, they have held five national matches at the Delta Resort.**

**Chuck facilitated the largest NRA Level One Shotgun Training Course with over 125 coaches completing the training and receiving certificates.  After several hundred coaches were trained to level one status, Chuck was chosen to attend the first ever USA/NRA Level Three Shotgun Coach School Class to be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.  After the five-day training on the range and in the classroom, he was awarded his level three shotgun instructor certificate.  To date, there are only twenty coaches in the nation who hold this certificate.**

**Chuck has been a keynote speaker for several affiliated organizations / media outlets promoting the Arkansas Youth Shooting Sports Program – both in-state and across the nation.  If it weren’t for Chuck, thousands of youth shooters in Arkansas would never have had an opportunity to enjoy the sport of trapshooting.**