

# WYOMING OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOCIATION 2018 HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER AWARD GLENN TAYLOR SPONSORED BY **SCI** FIRST FOR HUNTERS

**GLENN TAYLOR SAYS HE MIGHT** have been “born to be an outfitter”. He was born in 1934, the same year that his parents, Verland and Joella Taylor, obtained their first outfitter’s license. You might say that Glenn grew up with the business.

He and his brother learned early to be independent and to work with horses. When the family lived on the Elk Ranch, Glenn and his brother drove a team and sleigh to school at the Moose Head Ranch. It was quite a distance for two boys in the 2nd and 4th grades. Glenn has attended every school in Teton County except Zenith and Alta. He graduated from Jackson-Wilson High School and attended the University of Wyoming.

It made a big impression on Glenn when his father Verland was tasked with tracking and killing a problem grizzly. After an 11-year-pursuit, tracking the old grizzly on snowshoes, and using 13 shots from a rifle too small for the job, Verland was finally able to prevail. The huge bear scored 9th in Boone and Crockett records for that year - 1945.

Hunting and fishing were an essential part of the family’s livelihood every summer and fall. As their opportunities grew, Verland and Joella established permitted, back-country camps: on the head of the Gros Ventre in 1948; a one-year temporary camp in 1949 on Pilgrim Creek; and a summer/fall location on the south fork of the Buffalo River.

As Glenn was approaching adulthood, his parents purchased a ranch on the upper Gros Ventre River and later, one on Lower Slide Lake. Of course they were interested in moving their hunting operations closer to home. After a chance encounter on the trail, Mr. Faler from Pinedale encouraged Verland to apply for a campsite that Faler didn’t intend to occupy on the Gros Ventre River just north of Chateau Lake.



For several years, Glenn, along with his parents, operated the camp on the South Fork of the Buffalo and the Gros Ventre Camp. They finally consolidated their camp to the Gros Ventre location, which has been operated by three generations of Taylors continuously since 1952. The family emphasis has always been on good stewardship, taking care of the resources, keeping a clean camp, and providing life-long memories for their many satisfied customers.

1960 brought the entire family good fortune when Glenn married Marian DiStefano. She fit in with the ranching and outfitting operations seamlessly and became a necessary part of both endeavors. Verland and Joella; Glenn and Marian; and later, Brian and Amy blended ranching and outfitting, taking care of a small cattle herd as well as the horses needed for both businesses.

Outfitting being a seasonal business, Glenn and Marian always supplemented their income with cattle, timber, firewood, some construction work, and any other opportunity to keep the proverbial wolf from the door. Marian sold milk and kept an economical home while Glenn picked up every job he could.

Glenn says, “I enjoy what I’m doing, whether I’m riding my horse, driving my pickup, or whatever there is to be done.” He does believe in the adage: “The outside of a horse is good for the inside of a man.” His good attitude has probably contributed to his health and longevity.

Glenn and Marian raised their family on Slide Lake. Their son Bruce has helped with guiding and packing at times, but has a business of his own in Sheridan, Wyoming. Daughter, Linda, is a teacher and like her dad, loves to ride good horses. Laura, their youngest, also works in education and has often expressed her respect for her parents’ examples of hard work, citizenship, and good

manners. Their son, Brian, and his Wyoming-born wife, Amy, have chosen to follow the family traditions of ranching and outfitting. There are nine Taylor grandchildren.

The Taylor family is very proud of their long history of providing hunting, fishing, and summer pack trips. Their hard work is tempered by awesome views, vast skies, humbling silence, and if you’re lucky enough to have a camp cook like Joella, Marian, or Amy, great food. The cook tent on the Gros Ventre has always been a welcoming sanctuary after a strenuous afternoon of hunting or a return from the early “dawn patrol.” Glenn has not gone to hunting camp for a few seasons. Amy and Brian now have their name on the Taylor permits and on the same beautiful camp location. Their two children go to camp with them whenever their own jobs aren’t in the way.

Their hope is that their care of the land and the wildlife will ensure that the heritage of hunting will be passed along for generations.

After spending years in the hospitality business, Glenn has met many people from all walks of life. Some spend only one season but others have become treasured friends, returning to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other life events.

A long career has seen Glenn give back to his chosen industries and to his community. He served two terms as chair of the Jackson Hole Outfitters and Guides Association and one term as chair of WYOGA. He has been a member of the board of directors for the Wyoming Stockgrowers Association for many years and was on the Wyoming Livestock Board for six years. Glenn served as president of the Jackson Hole Cattle and Horse Association and several terms on the board of directors. He was elected to the local school board and is a Master Mason.

Glenn lost his beloved Marian a couple of years ago. It was a hard blow, but he has found comfort and solace in caring for his land and his cattle. He still rides his range allotment on most summer days. He is proud of Brian and Amy and of their strong desire to keep the Taylor Family camp a recreational destination for lucky hunters and guests. 🍷

