

SPECIAL EDITION - 27TH INDUCTION AND MUSEUM PREVIEW

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## "To Dream The Impossible Dream" By Diane Miller



I n the 1960s, a young man from Easton, Pennsylvania, had what, at that time, seemed like an impossible dream. That dream was to honor those outstanding members of the Archery Community through the process of induction into an Archery Hall of Fame. Those who had made an impact on the sport of archery would be honored and have memorabilia displayed in a prominent location for future generations to see. And what better location could that be than Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World in Springfield, Missouri? Now 45 years after someone dared to reach for that unreachable star, Dave Staples lifelong dream has moved one step closer to reality.

September 14th , on the eve of the Hall's 27th Induction, The Archery Hall of Fame Museum's spacious new permanent home was previewed during an open house at the Bass Pro Shops flagship store.

AHoF officers, previous inductees, friends, and invited guests gathered at a reception to honor the five newest inductees into the prestigious Hall of Fame. The reception



was sponsored by Dave, Dawn and Mike Gordon from Gordon Composites and Tom and Rita Saunders of Saunders Archery.

They came from near and far, some from as far away as Australia to be the first to witness the talked - about museum that has been decades in the making. As people made their way towards the museum, the first thing they saw was the large bronze statue of archery icon, Fred Bear. That was just a teaser of what was to come. Approaching the Museum doors a large AHoF logo is



27<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame Induction 2012



centered over the beautifully polished wood entryway. The brass door handles look like bows. Guests looked in wonderment as they made their way through the 3,500 square foot facility. The side wall consists of 72 etched photos of each inductee with descriptions listed below. The photos were hand drawn by a team of talented Missouri artists, brothers Adam and Aaron Wolken.

Walking to the back of the museum, visitors made their way around the 12 by 10 foot high walnut cases filled with archery memorabilia.

Hanging from the ceiling in the Ann and Earl Hoyt Library, is a beautiful chandelier designed by Bob Sopchick and manufactured by the Bass Pro Fabrication Shop in Nixa, Missouri.

The fireplace screen with a AHoF logo was a





collaborative design by Melissa Dalla Rosa, Bass Pro Head coordinator and Tom Jowett.

As always, Bass Pro Founder Johnny Morris, pulled out all the stops to make this showroom first class and no guests was disappointed.



## Allen, Butz, Cook, Gandy & Martin Inducted During Museum Preview Weekend



Doug Allen (Accepting for father H. W. Allen), Victoria Cook, Gail Martin, Ann Butz and Frank Gandy

This years 27th Induction, held in conjunction with the preview of the AHoF Museum, welcomed five new Hall of Fame members including "The Father of the Compound Bow," the patriarch and founder of an iconic family-run archery company, and three championship tournament archers who dominated the sport during 20th century competition.

Dick Wood, fellow Missourian and founder of the Missouri Bowhunters Hall of Fame was presenter for Holless Wilbur Allen, with Doug Allen accepting on behalf of his late father. A Missouri bowhunter who sought to develop a mechanical bow capable of shooting a faster hunting arrow.

Years of tinkering resulted in the Allen Compound bow, patented in 1966. His invention forever changed the face of archery and launched a bow manufacturing revolution that continues into the 21st century. Though Allen died in 1979, his legacy will last forever.

Frank Gandy joined the Class of 2010 and was inducted by his grandson, Brent Gandy. A Florida-based competitor, Frank dominated tournament archery over five decades, from



Doug Allen with Dick Wood



One of Holless Wilbur Allen's first Prototypes on display