

# Charles H. Lyles Award Recipient 2003

## Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Past Charles H. Lyles Award Recipients

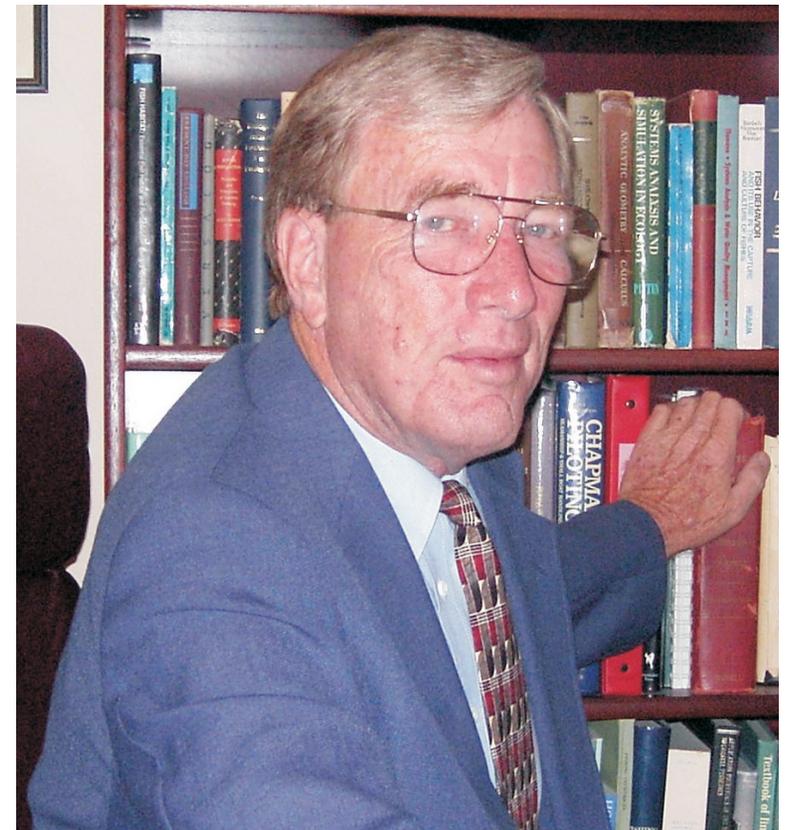
---

---

<i>Charles H. Lyles</i>	1984
<i>Theodore B. Ford</i>	1985
<i>J.Y. Christmas</i>	1986
<i>John Breaux</i>	1987
<i>John Ray Nelson</i>	1988
<i>I.B. "Buck" Byrd</i>	1989
<i>Hugh A. Swingle</i>	1990
<i>John A. Mehos</i>	1991
<i>J. Burton Angelle</i>	1992
<i>Louis A. Villanova</i>	1993
<i>Theodore H. Shepard</i>	1994
<i>Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.</i>	1995
<i>Tommy D. Candies</i>	1996
<i>Walter M. Tatum</i>	1997
<i>Thomas L. Heffernan</i>	1998
<i>Trent Lott</i>	1999
<i>James M. Barkuloo</i>	2000
<i>Walter W. Fondren, III</i>	2001
<i>Jerald K. Waller</i>	2002

---

---



*Andrew J. Kemmerer*

## Andrew J. Kemmerer

The Commission takes great pleasure in announcing that Dr. Andrew J. Kemmerer has been selected as the 2003 *Charles H. Lyles Award* recipient. Dr. Kemmerer and his wife of 43 years, Madeleine, currently reside in Brandon, Mississippi. They have two sons, Mark and Scott. Dr. Kemmerer began his career in the U.S. Air Force where he served from 1960-1963 and was honorably discharged after attaining the rank of Captain.

After the Air Force, he began work on his education. He started at the University of Arizona where he received a Bachelor of Science degree (1960) in Wildlife Management as well as a Masters of Science degree (1965) in Fisheries Management. In addition to his educational activities, he served as Fishery Biologist with the Arizona Game and Fish Department from 1965-1967. He then moved to Utah State University and received a Ph.D. in 1970 in the field of Aquatic Ecology.

After graduating from Utah State University, Dr. Kemmerer took a position at Engineering Science, Inc. as a marine ecologist from 1970-1971. He began his career with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as a Fishery Research Biologist at Pascagoula Laboratory in 1971. In 1972, he moved to the Fishery Technology Coordinator position at NMFS Headquarters. In 1974, he became the Director of the National Fishery Engineering Laboratory, NMFS, where emphasis was on a national engineering and technology program for fisheries, marine mammals, protected species, and habitats. The program included extensive involvement with tuna-porpoise interaction problems in the Pacific, incidental capture of turtles by shrimp trawlers in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, and a broad range of satellite applications for fishery research needs. In 1979, this laboratory was incorporated into the Mississippi Laboratories, and he was named Director of NMFS-Mississippi Laboratories, where responsibilities were directed at a southeast regional research program involving fisheries, marine mammals, endangered species, and habitats. Operations included two major research vessels, two laboratories, aircraft, and satellite data acquisitions. He was instrumental in developing and implementing two major research grant programs (SEAMAP and MARFIN) for the region to improve understanding and management of living marine resources, and cooperation with other Federal agencies, state agencies, and universities.

In 1989, Dr. Kemmerer was appointed Administrator/Director of the NMFS-Southeast Region, where primary responsibilities included

development and direction of research and management/conservation programs for fishery resources, marine mammals, endangered species, and habitats. Additionally, he coordinated research and management programs with neighboring countries and introduced conservation fishing gear and requirements to all countries importing wild-caught shrimp into the U.S. In 1999, he was named Director of the National Office of Habitat Conservation, NMFS/NOAA, where major responsibilities included finalizing and implementing Essential Fish Habitat regulations, direction of NOAA's Restoration Center for research and operations, and oversight of the Agency's efforts under the Clean Water Act. Geographical extent of the work was from Alaska to Maine, including all U.S. territories and possessions, and marine to estuarine waters. He served at this position until his retirement in September 2000.

In addition to all his job-related accomplishments, Dr. Kemmerer has held numerous fishery management and academic positions as well as international appointments. He has been a long-standing member of Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils (1989-1999), a member of Scientific and Statistical Committee for the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, a member of Dolphin Advisory Committee administered by the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution for Florida, Adjunct Professor with Mississippi State University, Jackson State University, and University of Puerto Rico, Science Advisor for Institute of Marine Mammal Studies in Gulfport, Mississippi, the U.S. representative to International Council for the Exploration of the Seas on the Fish Capture Committee, U.S. representative to MEXUS-Gulf, which is a cooperative research agreement between U.S. and Mexico, and U.S. representative for IOCARIBE, which is the research organization for Caribbean Nations.

Throughout his career, Dr. Kemmerer has assisted in the improvement of fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico through his significant contributions to coordinated data collection programs, fisheries management research, and other fishery-related activities. It is with great pleasure that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission presents this year's *Charles H. Lyles Award* to such a worthy recipient.