

# SPOTLIGHT ANGLER OF THE MONTH

**SEPTEMBER**  
**Gene North**



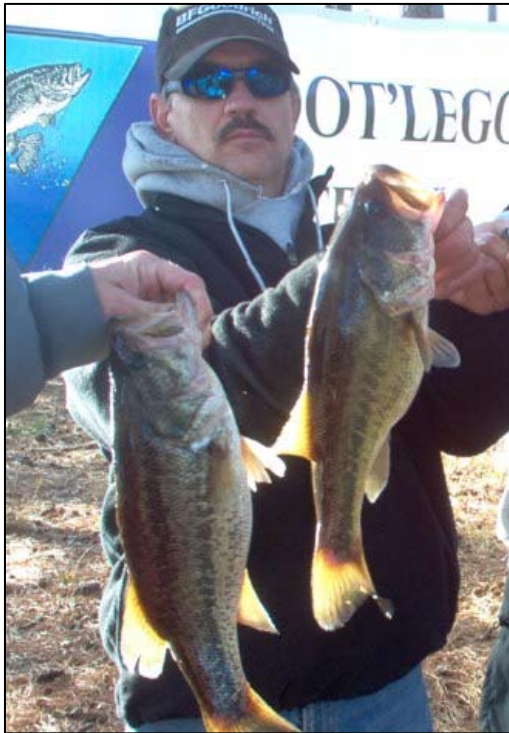
Gene North has been a major tournament contender within the Tidewater Fishing Community for years. Gene's father was military, traveling around the world and during his tenure; Gene was born in Dayton, OH. However, he was raised right here in Hampton, VA where he finished school at Bethel High School.

Sometime after finishing school, Gene enlisted into the US Army where he served from 1978 to 1984. He spent tours at Ft. Bliss, TX and in West Germany where he held the position of Tank Commander.

Gene also has a beautiful daughter, who is presently attending her sophomore year in college.

After his military service, he returned home to Hampton where he took on the job of a Postal Carrier for 15 years. Currently, he works as a Carpenter for a Local Builder; although he is titled as a Carpenter, Gene can pretty much do it all; from foundation work to the roof. If it needs to be done, Gene is the man to call upon.

Gene also has a passion for racing. Although he is not a driver, he is part of the Pit Crew for Joe Gaita of the ODLE Motor Sports Team. He has been with Joe Gaita's Pit Crew for years now, acting as a Front Tire Carrier and he wouldn't give it up for the world. He wouldn't ever give up this opportunity to be part of a Pit Crew member for anything; although it's not NASCAR, it's just as good. The Pit Crew and Team race for the Hooter's Pro Series Tour.



In 1994, he represented Virginia in the BBWC. His qualifying fish weighed 8.46lbs allowing him to compete in the Championship. Although he didn't win, the story told was that he had the winning fish on and worked him all the way to the boat before the fish came unbuttoned. From what he and his boater were looking at in the water, that fish would have won the Championship for him and it would have been a life changing experience.

His largest bass to date is a 9lb 4oz chunk, caught in one of the Local Ponds at night using an Electric Blue worm. Also, added to his Big Fish resume, he has caught at least 8 fish breaking the 8-pound mark.

What many area anglers don't know is that Gene was the founder of the well-known Single Man's Tournaments on the Southside. He took on this responsibility for years before giving it up for others to run. To this day, the Single Man's continues to reign after all these years; the torch continues to get passed along. He is also the one of the founders of the well-known Boot'Legg Trail and continues to be an integral part of the Trail as one of its Tournament Officials.



Gene has fished more tournaments in the area, than most people have fished in a lifetime. Not only has he fished them, he is one of the Top Winners in the area as well; whether fishing the Single Man or one of the many Team Tournaments in the area, he and/or whomever he is partnered with find ways to win.

Gene will continue to be a Fishing Icon for this community, but he is really humbling about the impact that he has created.