

# **N.C. Water Ski Association Hall of Fame Nomination**

## **Marjo E. Rankin**

107 Carriage Station Drive  
Marion, N.C. 28752

704-619-0996

[mrankinski@gmail.com](mailto:mrankinski@gmail.com)

Nominated in the Pioneer category

Marjo's contribution to tournament water skiing in North Carolina is as a writer. She has written feature-length stories on N.C. skiers for *Water Ski Magazine*, *The Charlotte Observer*, *The (Morganton) News Herald*, and community newspapers in Huntersville/Cornelius, Sanford, New London and others. Marjo has also covered water ski pro events, cash prize events and other tournaments for several of those same publications, plus USA Water Ski's publication *The Water Skier*.

Among Carolinas water skiers and events/places she covered for *Water Ski Magazine*, beginning in the 1980s, are feature-length articles on Chuck Forest, Jeff Rodgers, Jonathan McDonald (kneeboarder) and Trophy Lakes.

As a *Charlotte Observer* sports writer beginning in 1986, Marjo wrote features on Walter Gross (sports front centerpiece); Kristi Overton Johnson; April Coble Eller; Karen Truelove Krueger; Tommy Harrington; Jeff Rodgers; Ed and Clay Neill; Don Aschenbrenner; Chelsea Mills; Pam McNairy; Cane Creek Park pro tour stop; Longbranch Lake (S.C.) pro tour stops; Skyview Lake women's pro events; Little Mountain Lakes Queens Cup(s) and more.

She also wrote features and/or press releases on Tommy Harrington, Bill Barringer, Kyle Ledbetter and others for their respective home-town papers.

Beyond the Carolinas, Marjo was a correspondent for *Water Ski Magazine* for parts of four decades, interviewing and writing about legends and elites in the sport, including Andy Mapple, Deena Brush Mapple, Kris LaPoint, Jennifer Leachman LaPoint, Bob LaPoint, Chris Parish, Jamie Buchesne, Terry Winter, Jason Paredes, Scott Ellis, Carl Roberge, Drew Ross, Seth Stisher, Lucky Lowe, and more. She also wrote about boat driving and drivers; speed control systems starting with Guy Haggard's AccuSki (which

he modeled after Tommy Harrington and Miami's Rocky Pasqua); world records; barefoot skiers and a kneeboarder.

During her 40+ years as a tournament skier, Marjo answered the call when a press release was needed or a feature story was suggested. She found a way to contribute to the sport she loves off the water, and was devoted to bringing attention to water skiing through the printed word.