

# SPIASH.

The Official Publication of the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame

VOL. 36 NO. 4 Fall 2012

# INSIDE:

From the Director's Desk by Emmett Brown, page 2

Hall Announces Its Honorees for 2013, pages 4-7

Ol' Tackle Talk by Chris Slusar, page 8

Small Rivers by Dan Gapen, Sr., pages 9-10

Tips by Gary Roach, page 10

4th Quarter World Records Update, page 11



A Stream Less Traveled



Founded 1960 • Incorporated Not For Profit 1970

P.O. Box 690, 10360 Hall of Fame Drive Hayward, WI 54843 Phone 715/634-4440 http://www.Freshwater-Fishing.org e-mail: fishhall@cheqnet.net



Printed February 15, May 15, August 15, November 15

#### **Programs and Activities**

- Recognition of World Fresh Water Sportfishing Records
- · Record Book Published Annually
- · Recognition for Achievement of **Excellence in Sportfishing**
- · Educational Museum of Sportfishing Artifacts and Library

Museum open April 15 through October 31 7 days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (no admittance after 3:30 p.m.) Administration Office open year 'round 5 days a week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (except Christmas-New Year interim weeks)

#### **Executive Board of Directors**

D'II O I I I	D
Bill Gautsche	. President
Harold Tiffany	e President
Ted Dzialo	. Secretary
Tom Turngren	. Treasurer
Scott Allen	Director
Bill Beckwith	Director
John Dettloff	Director
Dave Perkins	Director
Don Robinson	Director
Wendy Williamson	Director
Ren Wold	Director

#### **Awards Committee Members**

Elmer Guerri (Indiana)	Chairman
Bill Gautsche (Wisconsin) Chairm	an Emeritus
Wendy Williamson (Wisconsin)	. Vice Chair
Clem Dippel (Wisconsin)	Member
Dr. Mike Dombeck (Wisconsin)	Member
Dr. James Gammon (Indiana)	Member
Dr. Todd Larson (Ohio)	
Tim Lesmeister (Minnesota)	Member
Gil Radonski (North Carolina)	Member
David Rainer (Alabama)	
Gregg Wollner (Minnesota)	Member
Forrest Wood (Arkansas)	Member

Professional and volunteer Staff					
Emmett Brown Executive Director					
Kathy Polich Business Manager					
Darlene Overman Secretary					
Myrna Huber Clerk					
Emmett Brown Splash Editor					
Tim Gavigan Webmaster					
Tim Lesmeister Media Coordinator					
Claudette Kersten Volunteer					

The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to conservation and sportfishing and to the maintenance of a hall of fame where the history of fishing and angling achievements are displayed. A 501(c)(3) organization

2 © Copyright 2012 Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, Inc.



# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

bv Emmett Brown

October 11, 2012

Although the fall colors around my "neck of the woods" are on the wane, the best is yet to come for many of my friends south, east and west. What's next, you may ask? Snow, of course. A blessing for many, but not so much for a few others. The older I get, the more I find myself in the latter group.

In a few weeks our museum will be closed for the year. Where did the summer go? It seems like only yesterday I was searching for crappies on Lost Land Lake (one of my father's favorites) or seeking out some rock pile for smallmouth bass.

Unlike other years, the very hot weather of July did not seem to dissuade our visitors. In fact, there was a running joke around our small community that "the lakes must be broken" because most of our visitors seem to come to town every day - especially on the hot days. Believe me when I tell you this, that is a departure from the norm. For whatever reason, I'll take it!

Please be sure to review our honorees for 2013, beginning on page 4. This select group is the result of a lot of hard work and careful deliberation by our volunteer national awards committee. Another fine group of selections, guys (and gal)! Thank you very much for your dedication and expertise.

Not all of the ceremonies have been scheduled, but I do know I will be inducting Bill Lindner, Al Maas, Dan Sura and Terry Tuma at the Northwest Sport Show in Minneapolis, Minnesoata on Saturday, March 23, 2013. If you're in the area around that time, please make a point to attend. This sport show is a one of a kind and not to be missed. Our hosts, the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) and show manager Jennifer Thompson, put on an event that is second to none!

Please, everyone have a safe and happy Holiday Season.

Regards,

Emmett A. Brown, Jr. **Executive Director** 

#### HALL AWARDS ARE PRESENTED!



Hall Awards Committee member Clem Dippel (right) presents to the American Sportfishing Association's (ASA) president Mike Nussman his group's 2012 Organizational Induction plaque at the International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades (ICAST) held in Orlando, Florida on July 10, 2012. Thank you Clem and a huge thanks to the ASA for everything they do for sportfishing.



Keith Sutton (left) receives his 2012 Legendary Communicator plaque from presenter Jim Spencer on September 29th at the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association (SEOPA) annual fall conference held in Johnson City, Tennessee. Congratulations Keith and thank you Jim for your heartfelt and thought provoking presentation. Photo by Alicia Neely

# WE'LL MISS YOU!

On Thursday, September 13th at about 5:30pm the founder and owner of HT Enterprises Paul Grahl and his wife Johanna were killed in a head-on crash not far from their home in Campbellsport, Wisconsin. The Grahl's daughter, Ester, was also seriously injured in the accident. The driver of the other vehicle has been charged with "homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle and causing injury by intoxicated use."

Paul was a legend in the ice fishing industry and, in many ways, revolutioned it. HT Enterprises has introduced a variety of ice fishing innovations making fishing "hard water" enjoyable, easy and very productive. HT is probably most famous for their line of easy to use tip-ups that do not freeze up, even in the most extreme conditions.

Good bye Paul!

It was with great sadness that we recently learned of the passing of 2004 Hall Legendary Angler Jim Rogers this past April 27th. Jim and his wife Babe won the Mr. and Mrs. World Series of Sport Fishing Tournaments in 1963 and 1966. In 1977 Jim won the Indiana State Tournament and the New York Invitational Tournament. Also that year, Jim qualified for the B.A.S.S. Masters Classic at



Lake Toko, Florida. Jim was also the host of the "Fishing with Jim Rogers" show on KOAM television in Missouri. Jim was a regular on his longtime friend Jerry McKinnis' "Fishin' Hole."

Jim will be sadly missed!

On Thursday, September 28th, 1989 Hall Legendary Angler Ron

Weber passed away peacefully at his home in Edina, Minnesota. Ron was born in Duluth, Minnesota and soon after graduating from the University of Minnesota - Duluth with a business and economics degree became a very successful trade rep in the sportfishing tackle industry. Ron formed a partnership with his customer, Ray Ostrom, in 1959, and founded the Normark



Corporation as President and CEO. Ron had so much faith in the Rapala lure that he used his life's savings to fund the construction of a factory in Finland, which met the growing demands for the lure's production. Under Ron's direction, Rapala became one of the most successful and sought after lures in the world. In 2011, Ron very graciously partnered with the Rapala family and funded the construction of the Lauri Rapala Room exhibit at our museum location in Hayward, Wisconsin. This new exhibit has become a very important part of our museum operations.

Thank you Ron and may you rest in peace!

0

n August 13th, 14th and 15th, 2012 our Awards Committee met in Hayward, Wisconsin.

The committee consists of a very talented and devoted cross section of our fresh water sportfishing leaders. They are: Elmer Guerri - Chairman (Indiana); Bill Gautsche – Chairman Emeritus (Wisconsin); Wendy Williamson – Vice-Chair (Wisconsin); Clem Dippel (Wisconsin); Mike Dombeck (Wisconsin); James Gammon (Indiana); Tim Lesmeister (Minnesota); Gil Radonski (North Carolina); David Rainer (Alabama); Gregg Wollner (Minnesota) and Forrest Wood (Arkansas).

Many candidates were considered, but only a few were selected for this prestigious honor. The results are as follows:

#### **Elected for 2013 Enshrinement**

Considered are persons who have made a lasting **National** or **World** impact to the benefit of fresh water sportfishing.

#### Larry Colombo - Alabama

Larry's personal energies and dedication and his unique innovative abilities have greatly contributed to the development and growth of the sportfishing industry. He has left his footprint upon the industry in no uncertain terms.

From his early involvement in outdoor writing and promotional activities, he has served as a model and an inspiration for others to follow. Always ready and available to assist others in any way possible, he has earned the reputation as the "go-to-guy." Colombo has been able to "make-things-happen" to support sportfishing activities and endeavors at all levels, in all phases of the sport. His 25 years of service on the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame Selection Committee has made a lasting and significant contribution to the success of the Hall's Awards Program. He has become personally involved in a great number of legislative and "grass-roots" programs to promote and defend conservation, the outdoors, hunting and sportfishing.

Larry's popularity among his peers is widely based upon their appreciation for his total personal dedication to the sport and to all those involved in the sport. Sportfishing, in effect, has been a major purpose of his personal and professional life.

Colombo's unselfish efforts and his

willingness to recognize and praise others were responsible for his writing LIVING LEGENDS OF AMERICAN SPORTFISHING in 1985. In his own words, "So many great individuals have been responsible for the significant growth of our sport that it's time they receive the recognition they deserved." Had someone else written that book, surely, Larry Colombo would have been one of the featured personalities, as he truly satisfied the criteria he identified for those featured: "...LIVING LEGENDS is all about the outstanding people who have given of themselves so millions of anglers can better enjoy the great sport of fishing."

He has never been simply a "member" of any organization, club, federation, outdoor writing organization or fishing industry committee. Larry has always been a recognized leader, and in most cases, the "head man" of any such organizations.

His efforts in introducing and educating youngsters to sportfishing have been exemplary. His reputation for always helping others is second-to-none! His love for and dedication to the sport is contagious.

Raymond A. Murski - Texas

Raymond A. Murski, of Meridian, Texas, died December 19, 2011 following an automobile accident. A legend in the outdoors industry and lifelong conservationist, his death has been mourned across the country. Ray owned Dallas-based Murski-Breeding Sales Co., Inc., one of America's largest and most successful sporting goods manufacturers' sales groups. He founded the company in 1971. Ray was a larger-than-life personality.

Ray served in many hunting, fishing and conservation organizations and generously supported them. Through his generosity, more than 50,000 children were given a chance to catch fish, shoot at a target or actually participate in a hunting experience.

Ray competed in Ray Scott's first All American Bass Tournament on Beaver Lake, Arkansas, finishing fourth. "The sport of bass fishing has lost one of its greatest ambassadors," Scott said. "Ray was always supportive of whatever we tried to do to grow the sport of bass fishing and he was especially intent on introducing kids to fishing. Anything that had to do with kids, he was there."

Murski fished 10 of the first B.A.S.S.

tournaments, finishing high and in the money every time.

"Ray excelled at anything he did," said Denny Brauer, one of his many close friends in bass fishing. "If he was going to do something, he was going to do it as well as it could be done. He has a natural ability. If he had elected to tournament fish for a living, he would be a household name in the fishing industry."

In 1995, Murski purchased Strike King Lure Company, through which he helped boost the careers of numerous professional anglers, including Brauer and a young Kevin VanDam. "Ray was a really special man," VanDam said. "There are very, very few people you meet in life that are as impactful as Ray Murski. He gave a lot to a lot of people."

#### Vin T. Sparano - New Jersey

Vin has been an outdoor editor and writer for more than 40 years. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism in 1960 from New York University. Vin is Editor Emeritus of Outdoor Life magazine, having served as Editor-in-Chief from 1990 – 1995 and previously as the Executive Editor for more than 10 years.

In addition to his long career with Outdoor Life, Vin's work in the field includes hundreds of articles and was a syndicated feature writer for USA Today and Gannett Newspapers. He has written and edited 18 books, including Tales of Woods and Waters; The American Fisherman's Fresh and Saltwater Guide; The Greatest Hunting Stories Ever Told; Classic Hunting Tales; The Northeast and Southeast Guides to Saltwater Fishing and Boating; Hunting Dangerous Game and Game Birds and Gun Dogs.

Sparano's revised and expanded Complete Outdoor Encyclopedia is in its fourth edition of publication. As Content Director for Maptech, Sparano also produced a series of CD-ROMs focusing exclusively on fishing techniques and hotspots through the use of navigational charts and satellite photos.

In 1996, Sparano was awarded the United States Department of the Interior Conservation Service Award by Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt.

In 2003, Sparano was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the New York Metropolitan Outdoor Press Association

for his extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to outdoor journalism conservation and children's fishing programs. Sparano is prominently listed in Who's Who in America.

#### **Inducted for 2013 Legendary Angler**

Considered are persons who have had at least regional lasting impact benefiting fresh water sportfishing.

#### Mike Folkestad - California

Mike is a professional bass angler known by media and fans as a legendary drop shot specialist, deep water structure expert and a humble, all-around "good guy."

Early on, Mike joined one of the first bass clubs, the Pisces Bass Club in southern California. Mike started fishing the Western Bass Fishing Association (the first professional tournament circuit in the west) in 1974. From those roots, he continued to grow with the sport, setting standards and breaking records all across the country.

Throughout the years, Mike has always been willing to share knowledge and encouraging other anglers. Some of which have also become nationally known, such as Gary Klein and others. In addition to helping others, Mike was on the U.S. Bass pro staff and had a monthly column in their magazine. He also had regular columns in other publications such as West Coast Bass and Bass West. Currently, he writes an Internet blog to share information with others. Mike volunteers his time for a feature on Calbassin.com and he has a regular column in the Western Bass online magazine.

Mike has won several major tournaments and has obtained titles and broken records, that fisherman across the country can only dream about. Additionally, Mike has been instrumental in elevating western bass fishing to the high standard it enjoys today. Mike is a strong competitor, contributor and a great ambassador to the sport of fishing.

#### Jodie L. Grigg - Texas

Jodie made a permanent and lasting contribution to fresh water sportfishing as a result of his innovative lure designing and manufacturing with the Whopper Stopper Lure Company. The Hellbender, Hellcat, Bayou Boogie and Hellraiser hardbaits are some of the most successful and popular lures ever manufactured. The Hellbender line of lures are effective as both crankbaits and

trolling baits. The Bayou Boogie introduced the popular "countdown method," allowing anglers to reach suspended and hard to locate fish.

Jodie also designed and introduced an impressive stable of spinnerbaits, including the Whirlybird and the Dirtybird, and a soft plastic line of lures under the name Flip Tail. These lures, and others in the Whopper Stopper family, are promoted as having been inspired and designed "from a fisherman's viewpoint." Their colors are the result of consultation with fishermen regarding the natural colors of bait food. Jodie is one of the earliest lure designers and manufacturers to depend so heavily upon anglers for advice, feedback and field testing programs.

#### **Inducted for 2013 Legendary Artist**

Considered are persons whose creations introduce, encourage or inspire the enjoyment of fresh water fishing on a local, regional or national level.

#### Al Agnew - Missouri

Through Al's art and work as a conservationist, millions of dollars have been raised to benefit wildlife through such organizations as Ducks Unlimited, the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Black Bass Foundation and the Wolf Recovery Project.

An avid angler and self-described "river rat", Al has been an active advocate in defense of wild rivers and native fish in both his native Missouri Ozarks and in other parts of North America. His is a well-respected voice on the ecology and fisheries of the rivers of the Ozarks and elsewhere. He is a much sought-after public speaker on fishing and art throughout the Midwest. Al's love of fishing and rivers has also been channeled into producing eight fisheries conservation stamps for five different states, as well as artwork for conservation license plates, publications and posters.

To view an Al Agnew original is to be given the gift of a moment suspended in time. Whether on safari in Africa, trekking across the wilds of Alaska, floating a wild western trout stream or roaming his native Ozarks, Al focuses all his attention on his subjects with the intensity of a predator. The sights, sounds, even the air that is breathed are channeled from his eye and mind to the stroke of his brush in exquisite detail.

# Inducted for 2013 Legendary Communicator

Considered are persons who have developed a unique communication means or avenue, which was instrumental in introducing fishing to the public or in maintaining public interests or awareness.

#### Bill Lindner - Minnesota

With 36 years and counting behind the lens, Bill is an internationally recognized outdoor photographer in the fresh and salt water fishing, hunting and food preparations arenas. His unique underwater and dramatic action images (both still and motion) have been widely published in magazines, books and catalogs, appeared on postcards and calendars and brought life to numerous television shows, videos and Internet postings.

A lifelong sportsman, Bill's knowledge and passion for fishing and the outdoors is reflected in every image. He has won three major Canadian bass tournaments, is a member of the Normark Fishing Hall of Fame and a longtime member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America with numerous "Best in Craft" photography awards. In addition to assignment, studio photography and videography, his images (still and motion) have appeared in consumer advertising, packaging and catalogs for such firms as Rapala, Cabela's, Storm Lures, Terminator Lures, Berkley/Pure Fishing, Abu Garcia, Frabill, Marcum, Humminbird and St. Croix Rods.

Based in Minnesota, his assignments have taken him from Canada to the Caribbean and beyond. Bill's magazine cover credits include Outdoor Life, Field and Stream, Salt Water Sportsman, Lake Country Journal, North American Fisherman, In-Fisherman Ice Guide, Minnesota Volunteer and Krause Ice Guide, to name a few. His images have appeared in advertising for Fishouflage, Frabill, Rapala, Aqua Vu, Gander Mountain and Maurice Sporting Goods.

As a videographer, Bill is one of the best in the business. He has filmed and produced commercials for Rapala, Berkley/Pure Fishing, Humminbird, Frabill, Live Target Lures, Worth Tackle, Shimano, G. Loomis, Lund Boats, Stratos Boats and VMC Hooks. Additionally, he has produced video for In-Fisherman television, FLW Outdoors, Lindner Media Productions, The History Channel (Modern Marvels and Monster Quest),

National Geographic and the National Wildlife Federation.

James T. Smith - Colorado Jim is an avid outdoorsman, sportsman, trophy hunter, fisherman and competitive shooter. Jim is a past editor of Muskie Magazine. Smith has been a featured celebrity speaker at the International Sportsmen's Exposition. Jim served as Muskies, Inc. International President from 1997 - 1999, continues as an at-large director and is a member of their Hall of Fame. Iim also served as a Commissioner for the Colorado Division of Wildlife from 1979 to 1987. Jim was largely responsible for stocking the first hybrid muskies in the state of Colorado in 1983. Jim is the founder and past president of the Colorado Chapter of Muskies, Inc. He was their first inductee into their Hall of Fame.

Dan Sura - Minnesota/Wisconsin Dan's lifelong passion for fishing began as a young boy in his hometown of Racine, Wisconsin where he fished the Root River for catfish, carp, bullheads and rock bass. This is where Dan became hooked on fishing for life. After college and a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy, Dan worked for S. C. Johnson and Sons in their Research and Development division where he developed his highly analytical reasoning skills and applied them to fishing. Dan became one of the early leading lights of the modern angling revolution that began in the 1960's. He was active in angling clubs and education not only in the Milwaukee area, but also throughout the upper Midwest. He began with the Bill Binkelman Fishing Facts/Buck Perry movement and eventually represented Tuffy Boats.

In the early 1970's, on the seminar tour and sport show circuit, Dan met Ron and Al Lindner and an enduring friendship began. The Lindner's recognized both Dan's fishing talent and organizational skills and he began to work with the Lindner's at the In-Fisherman Communications Network as their Chief Operations Officer. In those years, he helped write and distribute many of the In-Fisherman's early books and was instrumental in bringing catch and release into the world of walleye fishing. As part of the In-Fisherman's Media Network, Dan not only appeared on both television and radio shows, but wrote many articles and oversaw the unique In-Fisherman school, aptly named, Camp Fish.

In 2002, Dan joined Lindner Media Productions to direct key elements of the television department. This included communicating with marketing partners, managing television program distribution, overseeing contact negotiations and many other related management duties.

Terry Tuma - Minnesota

Born in Northfield, Minnesota, Terry was destined to be one of the most prolific outdoor communicators the Upper Midwest has ever known. At age 4, Terry began joining his parents for outings on nearby lakes, sometimes when the water was open and just as often when the water was frozen. Tuma likes to share with audiences the story of his father using an ice spud to create fishing holes. He would start with a 3-foot square on the top of the ice and end up with a 6-inch hole on the bottom.

More than 40 years ago, Terry took a prostaff position with a fishing tackle manufacturer and began doing seminars and radio. Twenty-five years ago, he decided to take his part-time program and turn it into a full-time career and he went to work for Glenn Meyer at Outdoor News.

Terry has been featured on many television shows and currently can be seen regularly on Minnesota Bound and Due North Outdoors. Print media has also been a staple of Tuma's expertise. Terry has been featured in many major publications including In-Fisherman, North American Fisherman and, of course, Outdoor News.

While Terry may have decided early on that he would focus on the Upper Midwest and southern Canada, today's unlimited range of web-based media and his frequent appearances on national television programs has projected his influence far beyond these boundaries. According to Tuma, there are still many anglers who want to learn and they will use every tool at their disposal to gain that information. It is his goal to provide those tools.

Tuma has been, and still is, a pioneer in outdoor communications. He has introduced numerous programs to the public which never existed until he brought them to the forefront.

Inducted for 2013 Legendary Guide Considered are persons who have gained by their expertise and professionalism, a status of credibility and immortality judged so by their customers and/or their peers.

#### Al Maas - Minnesota

As a consequence of his commitment to sport fishing, Al took every opportunity to carry his message to a wide segment of the public. Over his career, he has addressed countless numbers of individuals attending sport shows, seminars, club meetings and banquets.

Eventually, as Al's reputation and notoriety grew, he saw modern media as a mechanism to carry his message to a wider segment of the population. Radio and television gave him the perfect venue to promote sport fishing and the Leech Lake area of Minnesota to a much wider and diverse audience.

During forty years of guiding, it was only natural that his expertise and enthusiasm for fishing would be sought out by the industry to assist in the design and development of modern fishing equipment. This involvement gave Al the opportunity to be a part of a much broader segment of the sport and allowed him to encourage more people to become successful and dedicated anglers.

Al's leadership, dedication, knowledge and contributions to sport fishing make him second to none in the arena of fresh water sportfishing and professional guiding.

David "Crash" Mullins – Kentucky
David, better known as Crash, is a hero and
an inspiration to fishing. You will never find a
person with more love for musky fishing.

Love of the sport is what pulls him out of bed every day operating his highly successful guide service. Crash is responsible for getting the Professional Musky Tournament Trail to come to Cave Run in Kentucky. Crash's show "Catch Ya in the Bluegrass" launched its maiden season in 2011. Crash has produced a line of rods and operates one of the most successful guide businesses in Kentucky with hundreds of clients each year. All his clients lament that he is unquestionably among the very best musky guides and educators in North America.

#### Eric Wallace - Maine

From the Pacific Northwest to the state of Maine, Captain Eric Wallace has carved a reputation as an uncompromising defender of local and national fisheries as well as an astounding talent as a multi-species guide

and fishing educator. Eric began his career in 1993, guiding trout anglers on famed Colorado Rivers as the Roaring Fork, Frying Pan, the Colorado itself and many area tributaries. In 1999, he moved to Oregon to fish for trout and summer steelhead on the Deschutes and the McKenzie. Off hours, Eric became a champion of every fishery conservation cause in which he could enlist. In the West it was trout and salmon, of course. Wallace spoke at meetings and donated many fishing trips to national organizations like Trout Unlimited and numerous local angling clubs. Eric continues his conservation advocacy through advisory committees to many state fishery agencies, the Maine Association of Charter Boat Captains and the Coastal Conservation Association. At fishing events, he continually works to build excitement among youngsters for fishing. What's next in this creative guide's plans to stimulate continued enthusiasm for sportfishing is anyone's guess. You can rest assured, it will be handled with professionalism, total integrity and with an amusing flare.

# Inducted for 2013 Organizational/Governmental Award

Considered are organizations or governmental entities, which have demonstrated and/or performed a valuable service or act to benefit fresh water sportfishing within its jurisdiction or the boundaries of its organization whether local, regional or national.

No selections were made in this category.

# Inducted for 2013 Special Recognition Award

Recognizes individuals, groups or organizations for their programs benefiting fresh water angling which are not clearly covered by the other recognition categories.

#### David Campbell - Texas

David, coordinator of the Toyota ShareLunker program, worked for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for 46 years. He was inducted into the Texas Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame in 2011.

The ShareLunker program is an angler recognition and selective breeding program designed to increase the number and size of trophy bass (seven pounds and larger) caught in Texas. More than 500 bass, 13 pounds and larger have been entered into the program since its inception in 1986.

As manager of the Tyler Texas Fish Hatchery, Campbell was instrumental in the introduction of Florida strain largemouth bass into Texas and helped stock fish into almost every public reservoir in the state.

Through his years of experience of caring for trophy largemouth bass, Campbell contributed a great deal to the knowledge of how best to care for big fish and communicated this information to the public through newspapers, magazines, radio and television. His emphasis on the proper way to handle big fish first appeared as early as 1990 and may prove to be one of Campbell's most enduring legacies. The impact of proper fish handling of trophy bass on a national level can hardly be overestimated.

#### Charlie Evans - Kentucky

Charlie was born in Hazard, Kentucky and currently resides in Gilbertsville, Kentucky. In 1980 Charlie fished the first tournament sponsored by Operation Bass, which was started by Mike Whittaker in 1979. It was at this tournament, that Charlie met Mike and went to work for Operation Bass, in 1982. From this small beginning, Charlie helped to strengthen tournament fishing and its growth was phenomenal. In 1984 the Red Man Tournament Trail was expanded to include 94 events.

In 1996 Irwin Jacobs purchased Operation Bass and Forrest L. Wood Outdoors (FLW Outdoors) was born. Charlie was an integral part of the growth of FLW Outdoors and is the former CEO, serving the organization until 2010.

Charlie has always shown a passion for the sport of fishing and the industry and has been a true friend to both. He continues to promote both at every opportunity.

#### Charlie Hoover - Arkansas

Charlie was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and currently resides in Bull Shoals, Arkansas. Charlie is a competitive and driven fisherman dating to the early 1960's. On April Fool's Day, 1973, he went to work for Ranger Boats, where he served 25 years as vice president of sales and marketing. In 1996 he became president and CEO of the newly founded FLW Outdoors. This organization has grown tremendously since and Charlie was an integral part of that growth.

#### RECIPES

#### **CRAPPIE POPOVERS**

Whether you serve this dish as an appetizer or a main course, you won't be disappointed.

Lemon salt

- 1/4 cup butter
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup cooked crappie
- 2 tablespoons white wine
- 6 ounces canned crab meat (drained)
- Salt and pepper to taste

In saucepan heat butter over low heat until melted, stir in flour and seasonings. Cook until smooth and bubbly. Remove from heat, stir in milk and place back on heat until boiling, stirring constantly until thickened (be careful not to scorch). Stir in crappie, crab and wine. Serve over popovers (or croissants if desired).

#### WALLEYE QUICHE

Real men DO eat quiche! You'll find this recipe to be the best nothwoods breakfast you've ever had. Or, serve it up for a dinner to remember.

- 1 Refrigerated or Frozen Pie Crust 9"
- 1-1/2 cup cooked walleye (flaked)
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 2 cups shredded Swiss cheese
- 1 cup fresh chopped spinach
- 2 tablespoons chives (chopped)
- 4 ounces mushrooms (sliced)
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil (chopped)
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup Half & Half
- 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese Salt and pepper

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Prepare 9" pie crust as directed. Bake for 10 minutes until golden brown. Remove from oven. Reduce oven to 350 degrees. Mix flaked walleye and flour together. Layer Swiss cheese, spinach, mushrooms and walleye in baked crust. Sprinkle with chives and basil. Beat eggs and then add Half and Half and salt; continue beating. Pour into crust.

Kris Winkelman's "Ultimate Wild Game and Fish Cookbook" is available for \$19.95 plus \$9.00 shipping & handling. To order, log onto www.winkelman.com or call 1-800-333-0471.





# OL' TACKLE TALK

Chris Slusar

#### THE NATIONAL

ello, again. After a short hiatus, I'm happy to be back with another edition of OI' Tackle Talk.

My family and I enjoyed a very full and active summer, in spite of the steamy weather. Like many parts of the country, Wisconsin baked in the sun and high temperatures. In July, we took some time to escape the outdoor heat, opting for the air- conditioned surroundings of the largest antique fishing tackle show in the world- the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club National Meet. This year held in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The National, as we collectors call it, is a 500 table fishing tackle supermarket. Whether you're looking for historical information, to fill a hole in your collection or just admire world class collections, the National is second to none. Among the many attractions are the most prized and interesting pieces of tackle the hobby has to offer. Of course, I had my camera along, and am happy to report that I filled the memory card. I'll be sharing several of these photos with you, along with some background, in this, and following issues of The Splash.

#### Until next time!

Those interested in appearing in "Can you ID?" or just having your tackle evaluated can contact the author directly at slusar@wi.rr.com or through the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame.



Heddon Ice Decoy- Known as "The Woodtail Batwing", this rare decoy derives its name from a wooden (versus metal) tail and its pronounced side fins, which create a bat-like profile. This decoy was made by James Heddon's Sons and dates to about 1912 or 1913. An unusual offering for Heddon (they didn't make many decoys), this model was offered in just two colors, mottled green back and bar perch, pictured. Value on this piece is difficult to assess given the limited trade data- it is fair to say that rare, early models can well exceed \$1,000.



Howe's Vacuum Bass Bait- This ca. 1909 bait comes with its original card board box. Produced in Manchester, Indiana, the unique design of this lure makes it popular with collectors. The patented side hook hardware allows the treble hooks to rotate 360 degrees. The patent for this piece was eventually sold to the South Bend Bait Company who made a very similar but more commonly found model. The South Bend version is distinguished by cup hardware. A boxed Howe's version, as pictured, will generally fetch in the \$600-\$1,000 range.



American Spinners- This fabulous collection is comprised of a variety of spinner baits premised on the well known "American Spinner", patented in August 1886 by JB McHarg. This display includes an ultra rare boxed McHarg version, still sewn onto its display card. A classic piece of metal, this item is valued at \$400-\$700. The American Spinner was eventually made by other companies, including Hendryx and Pflueger. Versions can be identified by the construct of the spinner, but are also frequently marked. Values of unboxed pieces fluctuate significantly, but frequently fall in the \$50-\$150 range.

# CAN YOU ID?

Hall member Jim Johanek of Chicago, Illinois writes, "My friend recently purchased a tackle box at a garage sale with these two novelty lures in it. Any info would be appreciated."

The novelty lure on the left is an obvious marketing item promoting Blatz Beer of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In the 1970's, Heddon similarly produced the "Big Bud" lure for Anheuser Busch. On the right is the Virgin Mermaid, a rather risque item for it's time. I doubt if either lure was responsible for the demise of many fish!

—Editor



Known as the "Bottle Bass Popper", this bait was made by the William J. Jamison Company, probably just prior to WW II. This novelty bait was actually made from wood, but later models were made from both plastic and metal. Jim, your early example is collectible and valued at \$25-\$40.



This exotic piece is actually fairly common. "The Virgin Mermaid" was made by Stream-Eze, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana. The mermaid was made in several different color combinations and certain models included a headdress. Jim, this lure is valued at \$10-\$20.

# **SMALL RIVERS** By Legendary Angler Dan Gapen, Sr.

ike arteries in the human body, rivers hold the life-giving waters of North America together. Within these bodies of life-giving structures there is a bonanza of fish for anglers to select from. Many of these fish species have never been targeted by the angler.

Our rivers, from tiny rivulets to thundering cascades, crisscross our land. Besides the fishing opportunities, they provide many products. Electrical power we so badly need, as well as recreational opportunities such as rafting, canoeing, power boating and house boating. Though many of our larger rivers have provided angling opportunities, many more of the smaller ones have been left untouched by the modern angler. It is these which I'd like to address in this article.

Except for a few of us old timers, small river waters like the upper Mississippi in Minnesota, the Susquehanna in Pennsylvania and the Wabash in Indiana along with countless others whose names carry local color, names such as Coon Creek, Bluehill Run, Raccoon Wallows, Whippoorwill Wash or Trout Creek, seldom feel the tread of an angler's foot or the vibration of a jonboat. It is these I plead with the angler to use, for it is these which host a wide variety of the game fish our nation's waters are known to carry.

First things first! Many anglers have an uncertain fear of the unknown when planning a trip down a stretch of running water. Why? I'm not sure, but it may have



The Ol' River Rat with a better than average smallie taken from a smaller river lift.



Dan Gapen, Sr.

something to do with the inability of not being able to see the entire water system they're about to fish. To solve this, obtain a county map on which the small stream you'll work is plainly exposed. For your first time out, pick a short stretch, one from a county road bridge to an exit point downriver a couple miles at another county bridge. Normally, if you are to traverse a river and properly fish it you'll cover about a half mile to a mile of river in an hour. Planning longer floats see the knowing angler to select a 10 mile stretch in any given day on an average river.

Knowing where to fish and what to use are next decided. Small rivers and creeks have similar water structures to larger rivers. Let me help by exposing a few of the better spots these small streams hold.

Current cuts are always an excellent structure on which the angler will find gamefish. These "cuts" are produced when downstream currents butt up against a reversing current directed by bank eddies, fallen timber and its wood structure, exposed rocks or protruding hardpan points. The cut is easily identified as the downstream flow collides with the reversing currents made by these structures. It's here, along the inside of the cut, that gamefish await the influx of downstream-descending food in the form of minnows, crawfish, hellgrammites and fly larvae as they seek shelter in the inner current eddv.

Undercut bank holes and midstream deep water pockets hold a number of gamefish such as walleye, bass, catfish and rough fish. For the best results, fish these midstream holes in the downstream

portion of the structure where the bottom is forced upwards. This is called the 'lift', a structure which sees much of the hole's minnow population staging, thus the reason for a gamefish stage.

Undercut banks should be fished in their entirety and up under the dugout bank. To accomplish this, begin your bait presentation from about midway down the bank hole, up to the beginning where current flow enters under the bank. Allow the bait to drift down under the bank and to float naturally as it drifts beneath the overhang, reeling in only the excess line as it slacks up. As your drifting bait passes the spot you've selected to make your presentation from, let out enough line to keep your offering at hold as it's presented under the overhang. These overhanging bank holes host a great number of large fish such as flathead cats, walleye, channel catfish and northern pike. The reason is a simple oneshade from the sun in these shallow water structures is the draw.

Fallen timber in small streams and rivers is also an excellent structure to work. Here the angler is best rewarded by 'dabbling' his presentation under the wood or in the holes now created by the tree's root structure. Dabbling is best accomplished by vertically dropping your bait into or under the wood. Wood draws bass and rock bass (goggle-eye) to this structure and the vertical dabbling of live bait or a jig will perform best.



'Bobber' Anne, Dan's fishing buddy with a decent walleye taken while 'dabbling' an Ugly Bug jig.

# SMALL RIVERS By Dan Gapen, Sr.

Selection of live bait and lures is a simple one. Worms and night crawlers are possibly the best live bait to use in creek fishing. But if you have a way of keeping minnows alive, these too will work well. Leeches, hellgrammites and crawfish (small ones) are also a good choice in small structured waterways. Keeping these alive is easily accomplished with the use of a small drawstring sack tied to your belt, if you are wading. Allow the bag to drag in the water behind you. If you use a jonboat make sure it has a live well. The live well is not only good for keeping your kept fish fresh but is an excellent storage space in which all of your live bait can be stored.

I just mentioned wading, one of my favorite ways to fish small rivers and streams. Not only is it an excellent way to approach the smaller waterways, but it keeps the angler cool on hot, humid summer days.

My first advice to the angler who wishes to wade his local waterway is to always wade upstream, never downstream! Why? Upstream wading enhances your presentation of lure and live bait by forcing you to cast upstream and retrieve downstream, natural presentation of fish

Shallow and Rocky Rapids

Undercut
Bank

Smallie

Crappie

Crappie

Crappie

Current

Cuts

Fallen Tree
in River

B

Walleye

Walleye

Trophy
Fish

ROCK

Walleye

Smallmouth
Bass

Drawn by
the one and only
the only the only the only
the only the only the only the only the only
the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only the only

food in running waters. Plus, all the noise and debris you kick up is washed downstream behind you, an action which doesn't alert the fish you stalk.

When considering lure selection, you now can limit what you carry. Hooks, split shot and a few jigs would satisfy most outings in a small waterway. To point out a special jig, I'd have to choose a 1/16 ounce or 1/8 ounce crawfish colored "Ugly Bug" jig as my best selection. It has the ability to walk snag free over river rock and hold a level position when dabbled in a hole, creating a natural life-like position to the fish

On any given day during the summer, the angler who chooses to work a small waterway can capture as many as 8 to 12 species. Most waterways host all the bass

species, a multitude of panfish species, walleye, northern pike, a barrage of rough fish, all the catfish species, bullheads and even the almighty muskie in some cases.

Yes, rivers and their children, the smaller creeks and streams, are a paradise awaiting the arrival of you, my reader, if only you will give them a try.

So it is I end this with the suggestion hoping you'll... RELAX...SAVOR...and ENJOY Our Great Outdoors.

About the Author: Dan Gapen, Sr., a member of the Hall of Fame is noted for his river fishing ability. For 75 years Dan has traversed the rivers of North America in search of its multitude of fish species. It may be worth the reader's while to pick up one of Dan's DVD's on how to fish rivers. Or his River Books which can be found on his website: dan@gapen.com.

# TIPS By Legendary Angler Gary Roach

#### Choosing the Right Line

1 – There are so many varieties of fishing lines these days you have to read a book to decide what to buy. First, remember that there is no need to



switch to a different style if what you're using is working fine. The majority of anglers still use monofilament because it works well for most situations.

- 2 The superlines are low in stretch and very sensitive. These braided lines are small in diameter with high strength and work well for trolling and live-bait rigging. Use a rod with a "soft" tip when using superline because of its low-stretch quality.
- 3 Fluorocarbon line is completely invisible underwater and works great for leaders on live-bait rigs. I also like the lighter diameter for spinning reels and small jig presentations. Make sure you wet the knot well before cinching or it will break there during a good fight.
- 4 There is a new fluorocarbon line that is highly visible above the water and invisible underwater. This is the perfect line for plastic-worm fishing and Carolina rigging. 5 Learn the Palomar knot for tying on lures, hooks and terminal tackle. This knot is easy to tie, never slips or breaks and is

recommended for the braided superlines. Use any search engine to find it on the Internet.

#### **Top Water Bass**

- 1 Topwater anglers always set the hook too soon and then cuss when the lure comes flying back at them. Count to two after you see the boil. I tend to reel in the slack and drop the rod tip when I see the fish strike the lure, which takes about two seconds. Hesitate and every time you set the hook there will be a bass on.
- 2 After casting a topwater always wait a few seconds until the ripples are gone. Then twitch the lure a few times before starting the erratic retrieve.
- 3 Always be prepared to set the hook immediately after that lure hits the water. It's amazing how many anglers are so surprised that a topwater lure gets struck as soon as it touches down that they almost always miss the fish.
- 4 If bass are just bumping the lure and not opening their mouths to inhale the bait, tie a three inch piece of red yarn around one of the hooks. This can trigger a fish to grab the bait instead of just nudging it.
- 5 Some anglers like to burn a topwater buzzbait over slop and around lily pads and if a bass takes a whack at it, and misses, they grab another rod rigged with a topwater floater and they pitch the lure right out to that spot and let it sit until that hungry bass hits it.

10

#### WORLD ANGLING RECORDS GRANTED

#### 4th QUARTER - 2012 UPDATE

NOTE: World angling records are updated quarterly and the ultimate synthesis is published annually in book form each April, distributed free to members, media, manufacturers and world fisheries as a public service.

#### NOTICE TO REPRINT

©COPYRIGHT 2012 FRESH WATER FISHING HALL OF FAME. Excerpts or whole may be reprinted without written permission as public information only, but not for commercial profit purpose. The source of this information must be credited to the Fishing Hall of Fame in a type size readably noticeable or as the contents of the companion text.

#### "KEPT" WORLD RECORDS LIST DIVISION #1 - ROD/REEL

		DIVIDION # I		NOD/ NELL	
	Line	Lbs./			
Fish	Class	Ozs.	Angler	Where Caught	Date
CARPSUCKER (Quillback)	10 lb.	5-3	Joe Barnett	Maumee River, Ohio, USA	5/30/2012
CATFISH/ White	17 lb.	6-12	Roger Aziz, Jr.	Round Pond, Massachusetts, USA	6/5/2012
DRUM/ Freshwater (Sheepshead)	30 lb.	10-9	Joe Barnett	Lake Erie, Ohio, USA	5/28/2012
DIVISION #3 - POLE/LINE/NO REEL					
	Line	Lbs./			
Fish	Class	Ozs.	Angler	Where Caught	Date

#### "C&R" WORLD RECORDS LIST DIVISION #1 - ROD/REEL

Russell Creek,

Alaska, USA

Alan

Ellis

	DIVISION # I		131011 # 1	ROD/ RELE	
	Line				
Fish	Class	Length	Angler	Where Caught	Date
BASS/Striped	AII-	45"	Dan	Beaver Lake,	6/4/2012
	Tackle		Strach	Arkansas, USA	
	17 lb.	45"	Dan	Beaver Lake,	6/4/2012
			Strach	Arkansas, USA	, ,
BOWFIN or	20 lb.	29"	Rick	Rome Pond,	7/4/2012
DOGFISH			Stelter	Wisconsin, USA	
CATFISH/	16 lb.	31"	Steve	Nickajack Headwaters,	9/25/2012
Blue			Norris	Tennessee, USA	, ,
DRUM/	15 lb.	27"	Steve	Nickajack Headwaters,	9/3/2012
Freshwater (Sheep	oshead)		Norris	Tennessee, USA	, ,

MUSKELLUGE/ Hybrid or Tiger	6 lb.	48"	Kurt Sikora	Lake Namekagon, Wisconsin, USA	9/9/2012
		DIVI	SION #2 - FLY F	ISHING	
Fish MUSKELLUNGE/ Natural	Line Class 60 lb. Tippet	Length 47"	Angler Bram Downs	Where Caught Wisconsin River, Wisconsin, USA	Date 9/21/2012
SALMON/ Pink (Sea-Run)	4 lb. Tippet	23"	Mark Gagliano	Kanektok River, Alaska, USA	8/1/2012
TROUT/ Brook	15 lb. tippet	19"	Alan Madden	Miramichi River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/11/2012
	17 lb. tippet	22"	Alan Madden	Miramichi River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/12/2012
TROUT/ Dolly Varden	4 lb. Tippet	23"	Mark Gagliano	Unnamed River, Alaska, USA	7/27/2012
	15 lb. Tippet	23"	Mark Gagliano	Kanektok River, Alaska, USA	7/29/2012
	16 lb. Tippet	21"	Mark Gagliano	Kanektok River, Alaska, USA	7/31/2012
	17 lb. Tippet	20"	Mark Gagliano	Kanektok River, Alaska, USA	7/31/2012
	20 lb. Tippet	22"	Mark Gagliano	Kanektok River, Alaska, USA	7/31/2012
TROUT/ Lake (Mackinaw)	8 lb. Tippet	37"	John Cleveland	Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan, CANADA	9/20/2012
	12 lb. Tippet	41"	John Cleveland	Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan, CANADA	9/17/2012
	14 lb. Tippet	38"	John Cleveland	Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan, CANADA	9/14/2012
DIVISION #3 - POLE/LINE/NO REEL Line					
Fish	Class	Length		Where Caught	Date
TROUT/ Brook	Longest (only)	22"	Alan Madden	Lit. S.W. Miramichi River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/11/2012



Heaviest

(only)

SALMON/

Pink (Sea-Run)

# ATCH & RELEASE FISH

8/9/2012



Kurt Sikora. MUSKELLUNGE/ Hybrid or Tiger. C&R. Div. #1 -Rod/Reel. 6 lb. line class. 48". Lake Namekagon, Wisconsin. 9/9/2012



John Cleveland. TROUT/Lake (Mackinaw). C&R. Div. #2 - Fly Fishing. 8 lb. Tippet. 37". Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan Canada. 9/20/2012



Mark Gagliano. TROUT/Dolly Varden. C&R. Div. #2 - Fly Fishing. 15 lb. Tippet. 23". Kanektok River, Alaska. 7/29/2012



Steve Norris. CATFISH/Blue. C&R. Div. #1 -Rod/Reel. 16 lb. line class. 31". Nickajack Headwaters, Tennessee. 9/25/2012



Bram Downs. MUSKELLUNGE/Natural. C&R. Div. #2 - Fly Fishing. 60 lb. Tippet. 47". Wisconsin River, Wisconsin. 9/21/2012



Dan Strach. **BASS/Striped** (Inland). C&R. Div. #1 -Rod/Reel. All Tackle and 17 lb. line class. 45". Beaver Lake, Arkansas. 6/4/2012



P.O. Box 690 10360 Hall of Fame Drive Hayward, Wisconsin 54843 Phone 715/634-4440

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 3 HAYWARD, WI 54843

#### A NON-PROFIT MUSEUM-EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

Custodian of Historical Sport Fishing Artifacts, Enshriner of Persons for Outstanding Achievement and Accomplishment, Official Qualifier and Recorder of World Fresh Water Sportfishing Records, Librarian, Educator and Clearing House for Contemporary and Historical Fishing Facts



# **Since 1993** OldCabin **Internet Services**

- WEB SITE HOSTING
- WEB SITE DESIGN
- GRAPHIC DESIGN
- FLASH ANIMATION & DESIGN
- SEARCH ENGINE PLACEMENT
- BANNER ADVERTISING
- DATA ARCHIVING AND STORAGE SOLUTIONS DATABASE DRIVEN WEB SITES

- DISCUSSION LISTS
- · JUNK EMAIL (SPAM) FILTERING
- VIRUS PROTECTION
- SECURE E-COMMERCE
- EMAIL ACCOUNTS
- MULTIMEDIA SERVICES

A proud supporter of the Hall since 1996