



THE SPLASH

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Musky Attack



Founded 1960 • Incorporated Not For Profit 1970
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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)*

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK
 by Emmett Brown

October 14, 2013

The calendar says it is autumn, but don't tell Mother Nature, because she apparently has not gotten the word. Half way through October and Hayward, Wisconsin has not had a frost this season. Don't get me wrong, I'm in no hurry to wish away summer, but it does seem strange to be at this point and still have most of our leaves up. In fact, we are just slightly past peak from a color standpoint. Even our tamarack stands are still largely green, with just a few of them showing a faint hint of yellow. Looking at the 10 day forecast, I only see normal to slightly above normal temperatures. I guess 2013 is the year of two months of Indian summer. I'll take it!

Above normal temperatures or not, our maintenance crew is busily preparing for the end of our museum operations. We only have 2 weeks left before we close our museum doors. 2013 will be recorded as a good year, in spite of our horrendous (18 inches of snow on May 2nd) spring. I want to thank all our readers who visited us this year and, of course, I am deeply grateful to all of our supporters. It's a shopworn sentiment, but we couldn't fulfill our mission without the kind generosity of all of you who support us. Thank you.

Best regards,
 Emmett A. Brown, Jr.
 Executive Director

Cover: A Lake of the Woods, Ontario musky sneaks up on a B. S. Willy surface bait. Original artwork by Lee Radke. Contact information: www.radtkeart.com or lee737@att.net.
 The B. S. Willy surface bait is made by Brad Schultz at b.s.willy68@gmail.com.

2013 HALL LAPEL/HAT PIN NOW ON SALE!

As most of you know, the State of Wisconsin no longer allows us to send raffle materials through the mail. This has put a real damper on this very important fund raiser for us. As the old expression goes, "Time to move on!"

We receive many requests at our gift shop for lapel/hat pins every year. Enter our first, in a continuing annual series, of limited edition pins for Hall members. This very nice pinback is actually made from a genuine Mepps #3 Aglia blade and comes in its own decorative box. We will only sell 500.



The cost is only \$14.95 which includes shipping (anywhere in the United States) and all applicable sales taxes. Shipping outside of the U.S. is an additional \$5.

Please show your support for the Hall and order yours today! They are available on our website at www.freshwater-fishing.org or call us at 1.715.634.4440. Thank you.

HALL AWARD PRESENTED!



Awards Committee Chairman Elmer Guerri (far left) presents to the Jodie L. Grigg family his induction plaque, on the Hall grounds, this past August 6th. Jodie's family came all the way from Houston, Texas for the presentation. Also on hand for the presentation were Awards Committee members (back row left to right): Jim Gammon; Gregg Wollner; David Rainer; Todd Larson; Mike Dombeck; Tim Lesmeister and Wendy Williamson.

NICE CATCHES, MIKE!



Hall member Mike Persson of Hayward, Wisconsin hefts a very nice hybrid muskellunge and a better than average largemouth bass. Congrats Mike!
(Photos by Emmett Brown) Editor's note: Is Mike a musky or a bass fisherman? Looks like both!



DIRECTOR LANDS A NICE ONE!

Hall director Emmett Brown holds a 20 inch smallmouth bass from Round Lake near Hayward, Wisconsin. Proving the old saying that, "Even a blind squirrel will find a nut from time to time" is based in fact! (Photo by Mike Persson)

**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP OR
BECOME A
MEMBER TODAY!**

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AWARDS COMMITTEE MEMBER WINS AWARD



The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame is pleased to announce that at the recent Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers (AGLOW) conference Tim Lesmeister was presented with their highest honor, The Golden Glow Excellence in

Craft award. Lesmeister has worked with The Hall of Fame for many years and currently he serves on their Awards Committee. Lesmeister has been providing content to outdoor related outlets for 30 years. He began his full-time freelance outdoor communicating career in 1987 and although he has focused on the upper midwest, his travels in pursuit of story material have taken him across the globe from hunting for partridge in France to chasing salmon and trout in the far reaches of Alaska. Lesmeister has been featured on The Today Show, BBC's Across America with Steven Fry, Backroads with Ron and Raven, Minnesota Bound, Due North, Midwest Outdoors and many more. He is currently a columnist, blogger, and radio contributor to Outdoor News Publications and his syndicated columns, podcasts and video clips are distributed throughout the U.S. focusing on the upper midwest. According to Lesmeister, "It is an honor of the highest degree to be recognized by your peers for your body of work, yet I am humbled by the scope of this recognition and thank all who have influenced and helped me throughout my career."

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On August 5th and 6th, 2013 our Awards Committee met in Hayward, Wisconsin.

The committee consists of a very talented and devoted cross section of our fresh water sport-fishing leaders. They are: Elmer Guerri - Chairman (Indiana); Wendy Williamson - Vice-Chair (Wisconsin); Clem Dippel (Wisconsin); Mike Dombeck (Wisconsin); James Gammon (Indiana); Todd Larson (Ohio); Tim Lesmeister (Minnesota); 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:

JIM BAGLEY - FLORIDA



Jim founded Bagley's Better Baits, and changed the face of the fishing world. His baits are the world's most treasured lures, which are collected by thousands. Jim hired the first pro fisherman, a fellow by the name of Bill

Dance.

The personality of any company comes from its founder. Jim Bagley was an inventive, fun-loving, passionate fisherman who became one of the most respected legends in the fishing tackle industry.

Even in his youth he had an entrepreneurial spirit. His first job as a kid was doing odd jobs in the very industry he would grow to love as he worked for Bill Eger of the Eger Bait Company in Bartow, Florida. Jim developed a keen work ethic and a desire to make quality fishing lures from Mr. Eger.

Fueled with a desire to succeed in the fishing tackle business, Jim purchased the dormant Dean Pork Rind Company in 1954. Jim worked closely with serious bass anglers to develop his line of pork rind baits. His big break occurred when Field and Stream magazine ran an article called, "That New Black Magic" describing the Black Magic pork rind eel Jim was making. This put Bagley on the map.

The real evolution of Bagley Baits came in 1960, however, when Jim became intrigued by the emerging balsa wood technology that was a developing trend in lure manufacturing. Jim understood that balsa wood was the best natural material known to man for a fishing lure. It's light and lively action could not be duplicated with other woods or plastic materials. Because most of the new balsa baits were very light and hard to cast, he saw an opening for creating heavier and more castable

baits for the bass market. Jim's first balsa bait, the "Bang O Lure" was a huge success. Bass anglers around the world quickly realized that this new "stick" bait could cast farther and offered a more pronounced action that attracts big bass. Jim followed with many famous balsa baits such as the "Driving B", the first deep diving crankbait, and the "Balsa B" made with a square bill that enabled anglers to fish in heavy wooded cover and the "Small Fry" series whose shapes were life like replicas of forage baitfish. Jim was extremely proud of the fact that Bagley baits accounted for 4 Bass Master Classic wins. In 1980 Jim sold his company.

FRIENDS OF RESERVOIRS (FOR) - OKLAHOMA

Friends of Reservoirs (FOR) is a non-profit foundation dedicated to protecting and/or restoring fisheries habitat in reservoir systems nationwide. FOR is the funding arm of the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership, an organization of natural resource professionals and industry representatives, associated with the National Fish Habitat Partnership. FOR is also a coalition of local citizen groups dedicated to improving fish habitat in reservoir systems.

FOR was established to improve public understanding and knowledge of fish habitat conservation in the reservoirs throughout the United States. FOR does this by supporting government agencies and other partners at all levels, in order to manage fisheries and fish habitat in the reservoirs and associated watersheds of the United States for the benefit of the American people. To meet its mission, FOR provides technical and financial support to agencies and others having management jurisdiction over or interest in reservoirs and provides outreach and education to the public on health and conservation activities consistent with the mission of the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership (RFHP) - a certified Fish Habitat Partnership of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

RALPH "BUTCH" FURTMAN - MINNESOTA



Butch Furtman is one of the premier outdoorsmen in the Midwest. He is a well-recognized writer, an expert fisherman and hunter, and long-time consultant to the fishing tackle industry. Butch has produced a leading outdoor show, "Sportsman's Notebook," on ABC affiliate, WDIO-TV, for twenty-five years. For the past 15 years, his syndicated show, "Sportsman's Journal," has been aired on Fox

Sports Net. This show has also appeared on The Outdoor Channel. Butch's ABC show consistently earns the highest Nielsen Rating, scoring much better than the other major syndicated outdoor shows on the air.

Butch states that, "I enjoy showing the outdoors the way people actually experience it." His enthusiasm is contagious. Butch includes his audience in his adventures so they can enjoy them through him. His shows feature a wide variety of outdoor sports, including all types of fresh water fishing, big game, upland bird and waterfowl hunting. Butch carefully explains and demonstrates the latest techniques and equipment and offers tips on fish and game cooking, so his audience is not only entertained, but informed on the important "how-to's" of outdoor sports.

A featured writer for outdoor magazines, Butch has been published in Field & Stream, In-Fisherman, Outdoor News and Hunting and Fishing Library. He is always in demand for seminars on fishing and hunting and has been showcased as the main speaker at numerous sports and travel shows throughout the upper Midwest.

Butch has enjoyed the sponsorship of major boat and tackle companies. He has acted as a consultant in testing new tackle for them and has also helped to design and outfit new fishing boats for his sponsors. Many of Butch's sponsors have been associated with his show almost as long as he has been on the air, a strong testimonial to the value they place in his ability to represent them well. Butch Furtman is a proven performer who has a track record of tremendous viewer loyalty and sponsorship support.

CLIVE GAMMON - UNITED KINGDOM



Angling owes a huge debt to the Welshman Clive Gammon. He traveled from Greenland to the Great Barrier Reef (and most places in between), often when nobody had explored the fishing.

Closer to home he spotted the potential of Ireland and is probably responsible for its popularity as a fishing venue. On his own South Wales coastline, he pioneered beach-casting for bass and other species with multipliers and fishing from rocks for tope. He founded the Bass Angler's Sportfishing Society in 1973 and was its first chairman.

For this alone, we have much to thank him. But more than this, he wrote prolifically and

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wonderfully well about fishing. He was one of the greatest angling travel writers of all time.

To supplement his teacher's salary, Clive started writing fishing columns for Angling Times and the Field and Creel magazine. Around the same time, his close friend George Gale, then foreign correspondent on the Daily Express, put in a word for Clive and from that point, he wrote a weekly fishing column in the daily newspaper for most of the 1960's.

This brought him to a larger audience and he started covering sports in general for The Sunday Times under the pseudonym Nicholas Evans. His writing caught the eye of Sports Illustrated, who started using him for sporting articles on anything outside the U.S.

Meanwhile, Clive had given up teaching, moved to London and became TV critic of The Spectator. "It made me the only man in the world who earned his living by fishing and watching the telly," he said. He also played a key part in two series of the highly amusing BBC programs The Fishing Race and The Golden Maggot, where teams of two competed to catch as many species as possible in 72 hours. Sleeping was near-impossible and cheating was encouraged.

Sports Illustrated soon offered Clive a full-time job. It meant moving to New York, and he lived in a flat opposite Frank Sinatra's apartment. Later, he moved to Maryland to take advantage of the striped bass fishing.

His work initially demanded just 12 articles a year, though these often called for a great deal of research and an extraordinary range of travel. In 20 years with Sports Illustrated, Clive covered the world and almost every sport, with an expense account and travel budget unthinkable these days. He covered all the major sporting events, from the World Cup to the Super Bowl to the Olympics.

As Sports Illustrated took a more parochial (and cheaper) approach in the 1990's, Clive found himself enjoying the job less, so he retired and moved back to the UK, soon returning to his roots in Caswell Bay, Gower. Clive caught many big fish: Tope to 60 lb. from the beach, a 129 lb. skate and a 10 lb. 4 oz. brown trout.

But Clive will be remembered most for his writing, from his Sports Illustrated articles and columns in Angling magazine to his superb travel books Castaway and I Know a Good Place. He wrote many books on Irish and Welsh fishing, covering lake, sea and game with equal facility.

DOUG JOHNSON – MINNESOTA



When anglers gather to talk of musky, invariably the conversation turns to Lake of the Woods of Minnesota and Ontario. Synonymous with both topics is iconic guide, Doug Johnson.

As a young fisheries biologist, Doug served as the "point man" for sport fishermen and their confrontation over the commercial netting of Lake of the Woods' ciscoes for the mink farming industry. Ultimately, Johnson persevered with a solution that pacified the commercial fishing industry, preserved the economic needs of North Country families and dramatically reduced the commercial netting of sport fish. Thus, he kept the vast Lake of the Woods fishery's resource from being exploited and helped establish it as a world-class sport fishery to be enjoyed for generations of anglers to come.

Yet, when the battle was over, Doug declined professional advancement in his chosen career, for it meant a transfer from Warroad, Minnesota and his beloved Lake of the Woods. Its sparkling blue waters, pine-studded island and elusive muskellunge had left an indelible mark on his soul. The result is a thirty-plus year guiding career that has influenced three generations of anglers.

Doug has been a regular contributor to In-Fisherman magazine, has been featured on numerous television programs (as well as DVD/video segments) and has been a guest educator at various musky shows throughout the country. Whether it is extolling the virtues of catch-and-release angling or giving an on-the-water ecology/entomology/geology lesson, Johnson enables his clients to see the bigger picture - that the beauty of the natural world anglers immerse themselves into is what defines a successful trip.

Success has not changed Doug. He exudes a quiet, calm confidence of one who has nothing to prove and unselfishly shares his love of musky fishing and his beloved Lake of the Woods.

ELMO F. KORN – WISCONSIN



At the time of his death in 2006, Elmo F. Korn was the oldest licensed fishing guide in the State of Wisconsin. Although it is difficult to determine when he was first licensed, Elmo was initially issued guide license number two. Guide license number one was previously

retired by the governor Warren Knowles administration. Based upon these records, Elmo was a licensed guide for nearly seventy years.

Elmo began building a fishing resort on Barber Lake near Winter, Wisconsin in 1938. However, the continuation of the building project was delayed by the onset of World War II. After the war, he finished building the resort and began attracting numerous musky fishermen from around the region and nation.

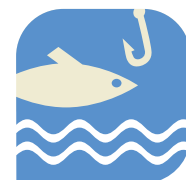
While Elmo guided many other northern Wisconsin waters other than Barber Lake, he utilized the resorts as his headquarters. And, through the years, he was extremely successful in both managing the resort and leading his clients to outstanding fish.

Elmo sold the resort in 1965, but continued to guide from his home in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. During the time he was based in Chippewa Falls, he helped form the Chippewa Chiefs Musky Club, which was the foundation for the establishment of the first Wisconsin Chapter of Muskies, Inc. Elmo was appointed the regional vice president of Muskies, Inc. for the State of Wisconsin and he later served on the International Board of Muskies, Inc.

While working with the first Wisconsin Chapter of Muskies, Inc., Elmo was one of the originators of what came to be known as the "Dorchester Project." Elmo and other leaders believed that fingerlings could be successfully raised in waste treatment settlement ponds, which provided natural nutrients necessary to fingerling survival without accompanying natural weed structure. In cooperation with the City of Dorchester, Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, fingerlings were planted in the city's waste treatment pond and fed cooperatively by Muskies, Inc., and the DNR. The project was highly successful and resulted in the transplant of thousands of raised muskies in area waters.

In addition to his guiding activities, Elmo wrote articles for sporting magazines and taught numerous classes on the sport of musky fishing.

When Elmo F. Korn died, at the age of 98, he truly left a permanent mark on the lives of guides, fisherman and those who loved nature.



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ROGER LAPENTER – WISCONSIN



Around 1985, while guiding on Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior, Wisconsin, Captain Roger LaPenter recognized that such extensive popularity, and resulting fishing pressure, was putting the fishery,

particularly smallmouth bass, at risk. Many anglers were consistently removing high numbers of trophy size smallmouths. Of course, he knew something had to give or the smallmouth fishery would not last much longer. So LaPenter, along with other concerned anglers, began to lobby for stricter regulations that would protect the Bay's great, but declining bass fishery. After years of work, Roger's hard work paid off as new bass regulations were enacted. The new regulations, established in 1994, included a creel limit of only one smallmouth bass per day and measuring a minimum of 22 inches in length. This new regulation singlehandedly assured Chequamegon Bay of a trophy and a high numbers smallmouth fishery for the foreseeable future. Smallmouth bass fishermen and women from around the country have Roger to thank for his many years of tireless work.

LaPenter's biography would take a novel of epic proportions to capture. In terms of guiding, he began in the Rocky Mountains with one of the first rafting companies in the Aspen Valley. He spent years fishing all of Florida's waters, which later prompted him to start a fishing camp in Mexico. His travels have led him to fishing destinations including Alaska and Central America, and perhaps most notably, 40 years of fishing the Bahamas. After years of guiding in tropical waters, LaPenter fell in love with the rugged wilderness of northern Wisconsin and its excellent fishing. After convincing his newlywed wife, Carolyn, that Ashland, Wisconsin was where they should grow old together, they moved in 1983. It didn't take long for them to open a bait and tackle store overlooking the Bay, as well as starting a guiding service. As a lifetime achievement, LaPenter's endeavors helped pave the way to insure a sustainable fishery in Northern Wisconsin by advocating for trophy catch and release regulation for smallmouth bass on Chequamegon Bay. The results, and lasting impact, speak for themselves as this fishery, 18 years in the making, now thrives with some of the largest smallmouth bass in North America.

WALTER RAY "BODIE" MCDOWELL – NORTH CAROLINA



Bodie McDowell's writing career began in the sports department of the Greenwood, South Carolina Index Journal in the late 1950's. When he was moved from sports to general news, he took it

upon himself to occasionally include stories about the outdoors. "People like it, so I kept at it," McDowell recalled. Then he joked, "Both readers liked it."

By 1961 he was writing one outdoor column per week for the Journal and was recruited one year later by the paper in nearby Augusta, Georgia. He was hired specifically to write about the outdoors, but was grateful to have a "farm page" assignment for awhile that garnered him eight hours of over-time pay. "That came in handy," he said of the extra wages.

As a lover of ball sports, it's no surprise that McDowell found his way to Augusta National for the Masters Golf Championship. There he met Smith "Smitty" Barrier, then-editor of the Greensboro, North Carolina Daily News & Record. Two years later, in 1964, McDowell called Barrier to inquire about working with him. He was hired on the spot pending approval from the managing editor. "In the meantime," Barrier said, "I want you to go to Fontana Village, N.C., next weekend. They're organizing a Southern outdoor writer's group up there. I'll pay your expenses." McDowell attended the meeting and was elected vice president of what became the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association (SEOPA). According to Bodie, nobody else wanted the job. Shortly thereafter, he moved his young family to Greensboro where he served as outdoors editor of the local paper for 28 years. He then joined the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) and was nominated to the board. He worked his way through those chairs and established the organization's scholarship fund that was later named in his honor. McDowell then served SEOPA as president in 1976. Today, he is the only SEOPA founding member who has maintained consecutive membership since that first gathering in 1964. He and his wife Shirley still attend SEOPA conferences.

Believing that everyone has a story, McDowell got to know the outdoorsmen in his new community and counted on them to provide him with story ideas, fishing reports and leads to other outdoors people. They didn't let him

down. Before long, Bodie was a household name to anybody in Piedmont North Carolina who kept up with fishing, hunting, camping and other traditional outdoors sports through the Greensboro newspaper. His boss arranged for him to report outdoor news on the local television station, too, further widening his following and putting an extra five dollars in his pocket.

During those early years, Bodie met Ray "Mr. Bass" Scott, who happened to be friends with Bodie's next door neighbor in the 60's. Ray picked Bodie's brain about his soon-to-be Bass Angler's Sportsmen's Society and they became fast friends.

Bodie McDowell has never met a stranger. He is a communicator's communicator with a special knack for getting at the heart and soul of a fellow angler's story.

STEVE MOYER – VIRGINIA

For more than 20 years Steve, Trout Unlimited's Vice President for Governmental Affairs, has been Washington, DC's premier advocate for fish and their watersheds. Steve got his start in fisheries conservation with the Sport Fishing Institute in 1985, after graduating from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Wildlife Management and Virginia Tech University with an M.S. in Fisheries Science. While at the Sport Fishing Institute, Steve worked on the Sport Fish Restoration Program and later served as managing director of the FishAmerica Foundation.

By the time Steve was hired at Trout Unlimited in 1993, Steve had already established himself as one of the best wetlands lobbyists in Washington. At Trout Unlimited, he has broadened his focus to include the Clean Water Act, the Federal Power Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, the federal appropriations process, the Farm Bill and other laws. He has decisive impact wherever his work takes him.

Steve is one of the rare advocates who combines deep knowledge of law and policy with an equally deep knowledge of congressional rules and customs. Unlike many lobbyists on the Hill, Steve understands and practices grassroots advocacy, which greatly magnifies his impact and gives voice to the angling community. The results speak for themselves. Steve has successfully fought off attacks on our most important conservation laws and policies, helped pass laws that protect rivers, lakes and streams and helped improve the fisheries programs of federal agencies.

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Steve embodies the finest traditions of a sportsman-conservationist. He loves being outdoors and can speak the language of the people whose support is critical to getting the job done as an advocate.

T. LAYTON "SHEP" SHEPHERD – THE MEPPS MAN – WISCONSIN (HONORARY)



Millions of anglers over the years have unconsciously given thanks to Todd Sheldon for providing them a means to some of the best fishing in their lifetimes. They may not have been aware they were

expressing gratitude to Sheldon as they showered praise on the lure they were using. If not for this angling pioneer, the success from a great day of fishing might never have occurred. You see, Sheldon was the man who discovered the Mepps spinner and brought it to America. It was his passion for fishing and his desire to share the fruits of his success that led to the popularity of the Mepps lures.

With any fishing lure there is a need for educating anglers in proper techniques. That job fell to T. Layton Shepherd. Best known as Shep, the Mepps Man, any questions that arose in regard to lure presentation could be answered by Shep. If certain techniques or specific bodies of water were outside his area of expertise the Mepps Man could rely on his friends, recognized experts such as Homer Circle or Joe the Fisherman. Shep is well known for his trustworthy advice with Mepps spinners.

It was Shep who started the Mepps Angler Award Program in 1976, which 37 years later is still popular. The awards program allows anglers to enter qualifying Mepps-caught fish to earn awards and chevrons. There are minimum requirements for various fish species and the photos used to qualify are used in the Mepps Fishing Guide and on the website.

Shep not only shared the secrets of his successes on the water, he admitted there were days when fishing was tough. In his Fishing Tips column in the 1975 Mepps Fishing Guide he titled one tip, Food For Thought, and wrote, "No matter how expert a fisherman you are or what kind of lures you use there are some days when you will be skunked. Just plain skunked. Here is why. Those 'Skunking Days' are established by the Good Lord to make sure that man never is able to continually outsmart the fish. For if he did, soon there would be none." A humble statement by a humble man.

So where is Shep these days? He still does

plenty of fishing. The Mepps Man continues to build on the wealth of knowledge acquired from years of experience on the water testing Mepps spinners and spoons under every conceivable condition. If you call his office there is little doubt you will not find him there, because he will be on the water. But if you send Shep a note with a question about any of the Mepps products you can be guaranteed an answer that will satisfy your inquiry.

So imagine fishing every day, in all kinds of conditions, for every species of fish, to build an understanding of what it takes to achieve success with lures that fish love. Imagine Shep.

THAYNE SMITH – KANSAS



Thayne Smith spent his life in the fishing industry as a writer and editor, also serving in other venues of our profession.

Thayne has mentored dozens of young communicators over the years, and

anyone who has been in the business for a few years or more know him well and know that is what Thayne loves to do.

Outdoor Guide Magazine would not be where it is today if it were not for his friendship and guidance all these years.

Thayne is past president of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers, the Great River Outdoor Writers, and the Kansas Outdoor Writers. And those are just the ones I can remember.

Thayne has won almost every major writer's award there is. As a past president of these groups, he has nominated dozens of other journalists for these most prestigious awards. Thayne has worked for newspapers and magazines. He was a public relations man for many years and as a freelancer, at one time, he had a regular syndicated column that ran in more than 100 newspapers and magazines. Thayne worked for the Kansas Department of Wildlife for many years as their information chief.

DALE STROSCHER – WISCONSIN



Captain Dale Stroschein is one of the most recognized fishermen in the State of Wisconsin. Whether it's trophy walleye or mammoth smallmouth bass you are seeking, Dale will safely navigate you to his favorite

(and oftentimes secret) fishing spots.

Dale grew up on the waters of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (Bay of Green Bay) and has been chartering for over 26 years. His passion for fishing is evident to all his customers, seminar attendees and TV viewers. Dale's main goal is to educate all those who wish to learn more about fishing in general or a specific sport fish.

Especially known for his regular guest appearances on John Gillespie's Wisconsin's Waters and Woods television program, Dale has built a reputation for "trophy" fish. Door County, Wisconsin offers an amazing fishery for both walleye and smallmouth bass. Dale feels truly blessed to have grown up in an area literally "swimming" with these monster fish. He is eager to share what he has learned, growing up on these famed waters, with those seeking a chartered fishing trip or fisherman staying at his resort, Sand Bay Beach Resort & Suites, Ltd.

Prior to chartering full time and maintaining his resort, Dale fished competitively on the Professional Walleye Trail for 12 years, each year qualifying for the national championship. He was the only angler to hold big fish records simultaneously for both the PWT and NAWA circuits. He built up quite a rapport with the companies that sponsored him and he maintains most of those sponsors today, despite not currently competing at the professional level.

A true outdoorsman, Dale also enjoys activities such as hunting, four-wheeling, snowmobiling, skiing, snorkeling, hiking and biking. If he can't be on the water fishing, you will find him working around the resort or partaking in one of his many favorite outdoor hobbies.

WILLIAM W. TAYLOR – MICHIGAN



Bill Taylor joined Michigan State University in 1980 and is currently a University Distinguished Professor in Global Fisheries Systems in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He is an

internationally recognized expert in Great Lakes fisheries ecology, population dynamics, governance, and management. Throughout his career, Taylor has been active in the American Fisheries Society, serving as president of the society, the Michigan Chapter and the North Central Division. Currently, he holds a U.S. Presidential appointment as a U.S. Commissioner

HALL INDUCTEES 2014

(alternate) for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

In addition, he has held a gubernatorial appointment to Michigan's Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinating Council, and a U.S. Secretary of Interior appointment to the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, which he chaired for eight years. He is also the associate director of the Michigan Sea Grant College Program. Taylor has received numerous awards and published extensively in the scientific literature (>120 articles) and has co-edited five books, including the first edition of this publication on Great Lakes fishery policy and management. Taylor has a keen interest in environmental policy and management from a local to global perspective.

BARRY "WOODY" WOODS – MINNESOTA



Barry started promoting himself as "Woody's Fairly Reliable Guide Service" in the late 1980's. Woody grew up on the shores of Rainy Lake, Minnesota and is a 4th generation resident of Ranier. His grandfather,

Adolph "Red" Lessard, built and operated the first resort on Rainy Lake in 1905 (Island View Lodge) while the gold boom town of Rainy Lake City was still active. Woody's grandfather, Fred Lessard, was a commercial fisherman until the late 1940's. Woody's first guide trip, at age 13, was for outfitter (and later state senator) Bob "The Ol Trapper" Lessard (no relation).

Woody then guided for the Musket Inn on Jackfish Island (now gone), Union 76 Oil Company on Red Sucker Island (now gone), Rainy Lake Lodge (now gone) and for his uncle, legendary Rainy Lake fishing guide Fred "Butch" Lessard (now gone). There's definitely is a pattern here.

In the late 1980's "Woody's Fairly Reliable Guide Service" was born. Over the years, Woody has been fortunate to have been featured on many radio, newspaper and TV interviews.

After 40 years, Woody still has a passion for guiding and trying to put people on fish. He and his wife, LeeAnne, own and operate Woody's Rainy Lake Resort in Ranier. Woody is without a doubt among the two or three "go to" guides on Rainy Lake in northern Minnesota.

QUETICO By Hall of Famer Soc Clay

Northward bound from Ely Town
We fly on the Otter's gold wings
To the deep blue waters of Lac La Croix
Where the silent wilderness sings.

Mark and Bill led the group
A total of six all-told,
Some had paddled, some had not,
But brave was the lot and bold.

We jumped on the double to load our duffle
And piled our canoes to the brim
Come on men our leader yelled
And roared to the lead with a grin.

From on high came a voice and a sigh
And surely we knew the score
The ghost of paddlers of old had arrived
To open the wilderness door.

"Now dip your paddles deep me lads,"
The pale ghost of the north woods moans
For there are miles to make and portages to take
And a time for the muscles to groan.

We'll follow the path of the Voyageurs my friends
And cuss 'cross the trail of deep muck
And through this land unspoiled by man
We'll trust in our selves and to luck.

We'll catch the leaping smallies boys
We vow from stem to stern
And make a hike for the northern pike
Whose secret lairs we will learn.

The knife will flash through walleye flesh
For fillets fit for the pan
And spuds will fry and coffee boil high
As wild stories are told to the man.

The night doeth come and the campfire hums
And stars are a million on high
And somewhere they say in this land far away
The voice of the timber wolf cries.

In six days time we'll finish the paddle
And return to the habits of men
But a final round of the loon's eerie sound
Reminds us of where we have been.

The north woods ghost returns again
On a wind that is autumn-time bound
"Ye have paddled the Kingdom of God me lads
Now keep in mind what ye've found.

For there's places on earth where man makes a stand
And places that's best left alone
And here in the land of the ancients red hand
The bear and the wolf are at home.

So go now in peace and return if you wish
To this place of clear water and blue sky
But leave not a trace of Man's might waste
Just footprints to say you passed by.

(Soc Clay was named Kentucky Poet Laureate by the Kentucky General Assembly and Governor Martha Lane Collins in 1983)

VISIT FROM A SHORT MAN By Hall of Famer Soc Clay

(Author's note)
Muskie Joe Stamper, widely considered the dean of Kentucky's rugged stream muskie hunters, fished for nothing else than Esox for more than seven decades of his 93 years of life. Much of this time he lived



Soc Clay

alone in a tiny cabin on the banks of Kentucky's historic muskie stream, Kinniconick Creek. It is believed that during his lifetime, he landed more than 500 muskies from the stream, but admits he quit counting when he'd caught 300 of the big fish. His largest and current stream record for muskie, weighed more than 33 pounds. He fished steadily up until the early winter of 1982. On one of the rare times he left the snug little tarpaper shack perched on the banks of the famous Punchin Eddy, Joe contacted pneumonia while living with his daughter in Indiana. He died in March, 1983 at the age of 93.

The January wind whipping along the shores of Kinniconick Creek was bone chilling as I stepped from the warm cab of the pickup and made my way through an inch high skiff of snow up to Muskie Joe's front porch.

Along the edge of the stream below, a layer of ice was creeping outward from the bank, threatening to close off the surface of the quiet pools where currents were less active.

Seeing Joe's old wooden boat that had been pulled upon the shore and tethered with a long length of cable that would save the boat if a sudden rise in the creek occurred, it reminded me that it was just about this time of the year when Joe went fishing several years before and hooked into what would become the record for muskellunge in the historic waterway. Joe said the fish weighed 32 and a half pounds, but I had also heard the fish weighed more than 33 and a third pounds depending on which old, rusty spring scale was used.

Joe liked to say of that great fish, "the Lord did better. He fed a multitude with five loaves and two fish. I fed 27 at my birthday party and had two skilletts full left over that two preachers from Vanceburg cleaned up the next morning."

These thoughts were crowding my mind as I stepped up on the rickety old porch that much like the rest of the old cabin perched beside
(continued on page 9)

20 AUTUMN SMALLIES IN 26 CASTS

By Hall of Famer Babe Winkelman

The smallmouth bass is definitely one of my favorite species to catch. Pound for pound, they pull harder and longer than any other freshwater predator. They'll fight deep, they'll jump with high-flying spirit, and they never, ever want to give up.

As much fun as it is to battle smallies, it's equally rewarding to hook one. It means figuring out the fishing pattern based on the season; what mode the fish are in (pre-spawn, spawn, post-spawn, mid-summer, early fall, late fall); where are they located; what they're eating; why they're eating it, etc.

Of all the smallmouth "seasons," none compare to the late fall pattern on North American rivers. At this time of year, the bass have abandoned shallow, fast-moving water where they've enjoyed high oxygen and plentiful summertime crayfish buffets. Instinct drives the fish to migrate from these warm-weather haunts to seek deeper, slower-moving water where they'll feed heavily before winter (and also spend the cold months in the same deep areas).

In addition to cooling water temperatures and shortening daylight, there's another "trigger" that sends smallmouth bass out of the shallows and into the depths during late fall, and that's crayfish. They love to eat them, but in the autumn crayfish get less active and develop harder shells. The crayfish buffet line is closing. The bass need something to replace that protein, and baitfish are the answer. So smallies go where the minnows are, which is in deeper water as bait moves out of shallow backwater sloughs and flats and down the breaks into deeper river channel "holes" or reservoirs above dams where water depths are typically greater.

Notorious schoolers, smallmouth bass will really stack up on late autumn spots if the bait is there and they have adequate cover, oxygen and agreeable current. The fish intuitively know that winter is coming on, and that they'll be less active to conserve energy through the cold upcoming months. So they feed heavy, then they feed again, followed immediately by more feeding. You get my point.

The lucky angler is one who encounters an active, hungry school of big smallmouth bass right in the middle of a fall feeding frenzy. I was one such lucky angler recently. From experience I knew roughly where to look for fish, which I did initially with my sonar unit. I was downriver of a feeder creek that held large numbers of big smallies all summer



Babe Winkelman

long. I knew those fish, and others from the main river, would migrate to deeper water downstream (and also adjacent to a large backwater slough brimming with wild rice and other vegetation). The minnows would be there, surely, and so would the bass (hopefully). While surveying the underwater world on my sonar screen, I came across a small hump in the middle of a mid-river basin. The surrounding depth was 19 feet, and the hump came up to about 16. The hump wasn't big. About the size of a Volkswagen bug. And just above it, a giant school of big "hooks" lit up

my sonar - along with a cloud of suspended bait visible on my screen too.

I pitched a marker buoy near the spot (but not directly on top of it), moved off a cast's distance and slowly lowered my anchor. From that spot I cast the simplest of baits: a small white maribou jig beneath a slip bobber set at 12 feet. I'd throw it upstream and let the current take it lazily over that hump. The water's movement made that maribou pulsate and to the fish, it looked like a distressed minnow tumbling in the slow current.

On my first cast I caught an 18 incher. On my second, a 19. A modest 16 fell to the third cast. It was then that I started keeping count. With the exception of six dud casts, I hooked, caught and released 20 near-consecutive smallmouth bass between 15 inches and just over 20 inches long. All from a spot the size of a small German car.

Was it fun? Oh my goodness yes. Did I go back the next day and do it again. Um, yeah! Will I give you the GPS coordinates? In your dreams. But I will say this: Get out there before winter and locate some late-fall smallmouth of your own. You'll probably have the whole fishery to yourself, and if you find an active school like I did, you'll make a memory that you'll never forget.

Good Fishing!

VISIT FROM A SHORT MAN

(continued from page 8)

the Kinniconick road at Comysville, was in bad need of repairs.

Stepping across a snoozing redbone hound that had sought refuge from the snow-laden wind besides the woodpile stacked against the tar paper walls, I noticed a quarter-size hole nose high in the wooden panel of the old door. "Hey Joe, you home," I shouted because Joe didn't hear well and also because I wanted to give him fair warning that a familiar person had come to visit. It has been said that one of the most dangerous people in the world is an old man with a go-to-hell attitude and nothing else to lose.

Joe was all of the above. Some folks said he had made a lot of whiskey in his time, especially when his was for years the only cabin found for miles up and down the Kinniconick. Joe was also a fiddler and played his share of parties during the Prohibition period when moonshine flowed like water and every man hoss in the region packed iron. Folks around the upper Kinniconick knew he wasn't someone to mess with.

When Joe opened the door, a big smile spread

quickly across rugged features that had spent the greater part of his 92 years in the out of doors. Joe and I had been friends for many years and I had talked with him countless times about his muskie fishing prowess. He likes the attention and had several magazine and newspaper columns I'd written about the aging muskie hunter tacked to the newspaper-covered walls of the old place.

It was hot inside the small room. The big wood-burning stove he fed seasoned whiteoak and hickory lengths to, was cherry red around the bottom. Joe's age caused him to feel cold most of the time when he was on the creek in winter, but the big stove remedied that once he got the hardwood blazing.

"Noticed the hole in your door. Looks like it's fresh," I said, pointing to the spot where Joe had placed a piece of tape across to keep out cold air.

"Had a little trouble last night," the old man said, motioning for me to sit down in the one old wooden chair he had in the room. Joe took a seat on the edge of the bed and lit a Camel.

(continued on page 10)

The bream bite was good this morning, just as we expected, and since we had decided to eat some of the fish we caught, that was definitely a good thing. It was Lew's idea to pack what we needed to cook a shore lunch: some cornmeal, salt, pepper, peanut oil, a few potatoes and onions, two big cast-iron skilletes and a Coleman stove.

"Remember when we took Ma down there to fish, and she cooked those fresh bluegills for lunch?" he asked when we were planning the trip. "Well, that was probably the best meal I ever ate. I want to do that again."

For all intents and purposes, Lew's mom was my mom, too. I called her Ma Peeler, and during the 30 years or so I was a member of her household, she fattened me on a steady diet of delicious vittles.

Ma was a high-school cafeteria cook of the highest caliber, and it wasn't in her nature to prepare a normal-sized meal. During rabbit season several years ago, for example, I took a couple of friends with me to hunt cottontails near her home. I asked if she would mind feeding our crew at lunch. She quickly agreed.

"Holy smokes," one of my friends said when we walked into the dining room at midday. "I don't think I've ever seen this much food. My mom doesn't cook this much for the whole family at Thanksgiving."

We stuffed ourselves on fried pork chops, roast chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, tomatoes, peas, macaroni and cheese, homemade biscuits, sawmill gravy and three kinds of pie while Ma fawned over us like a maitre d' in a fancy restaurant.

If there's one thing Ma enjoyed more than



Ma Peeler



Keith Sutton

cooking for folks, though, it was fishing. Bream fishing in particular. So Lew and I took her to Jones Lake with us one day to see if we could catch a big mess for our freezers. We did. By noon we had more than 100 bream in our cooler. But even there, in the middle of the river bottoms far from home, Ma couldn't bear not to do some cooking when dinner time rolled around.

We pulled the boat up on the bank and fired up the Coleman. While the oil heated in big skilletes, Ma peeled taters, and Lew and I cleaned fish.

"Better clean a few more," she said when we'd finished pan-dressing two dozen fat fish. So we did. An hour later, we sat there in the shade of 500-year-old cypress trees and ate 36 bream, along with a pile of fried potatoes and onions that could have fed an army platoon. She'd brought fried pies for dessert. And there wasn't a smidgen left when we were done.

I've never forgotten that meal, and neither has Lewis.

Ma's no longer here to cook for us. She's fishing in heavenly waters now. But as my best friend and I sat beneath the old cypresses today and feasted on fresh-caught bluegills and fried potatoes, it was like she was there with us again, smiling ear to ear.

I could almost hear her. "Have a little more, honey. You're gonna need your energy to keep up with me fishing this afternoon."

VISIT FROM A SHORT MAN *(continued from page 9)*

He looked at the smoking cigarette for a few seconds then said, "folks say these things will kill a man, but I don't believe a damn word they say. Hell, I raised burley for years before I came to the creek and started fishing. Nothing wrong with tobacco, it's all the other damn stuff the air is filled with these days that's causing people trouble. Didn't use to be that way," he went on.

"What kind of trouble," I asked.

"Bout midnight I was in bed, but woke up when I heard a vehicle pull up out front. Whoever it was turned the motor off and came up on the porch. That damn redbone let out a yelp like someone kicked it. I figured it was a drunk so I just lay there not saying nothing.

"The feller said, 'hey, old man let me in. I want to use the telephone. My car's broke down.' Damned idiot must of figured I was dumber 'in hell, since he drove up right out front and shut the damn thing off," Joe said his eyes flickering new light as he recalled the event.

"I told him to give me a number and I'd call for him, remembering it was just after the first of the month and I'd just gotten my old-age pension check in the mail."

"He said, 'don't give me no crap old man. Let

me in. You don't want no trouble from a man like me.'

"Bout that time I eased over against the wall and picked up the single barrel. I figured I'd take care of his kind of trouble, real quick.

"I aimed the shotgun where I figured his head would be and broke a cap. Made a hell of a racket and that picture frame over there fell off the wall. Those high powers 'er somethin' else.' Joe added.

I looked at the old fellow in disbelief. "My God man, what happened? Did you kill him, " I asked incredulously.

"Don't reckon as I did. I never heard a broke-down car start up so fast in my life. The bastard spun his wheels and threw creek gravel all over the porch. It took me a half hour this morning to clean it all up.

"Cripes, Joe, you think you might have hit him?"

"Don't reckon. I didn't bother to look last night, but when I come out this morning to run that damn redbone off the porch, I looked around to see if he was laying there. Didn't see no sign of blood, either. "Bout the only thing I could figure, son," Joe said am ishish smile once again creeping across the rugged features of his face," was that he must 'uf been a short sonofabitch!"

WORLD ANGLING RECORDS GRANTED

4th QUARTER - 2013 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.

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

Fish	Line Class	Lbs./Ozs.	Angler	Where Caught	Date
SUCKER/ Largescale	All-Tackle (only)	6-5	Jeff L. Frederick	Moses Lake, Washington, USA	8/23/2013

DIVISION #2 - FLY FISHING

Fish	Line Class	Lbs./Ozs.	Angler	Where Caught	Date
WHITEFISH/ Lake	8 lb Tippet	4-6	David Robson	Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada	5/26/2013
	10 lb. Tippet	4-1	David Robson	Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada	7/24/2013
	12 lb. Tippet	3-8	Jeremiah Robson	Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada	7/5/2013
	14 lb. Tippet	4-0	Nathan Robson	Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada	7/6/2013
	15 lb. Tippet	4-1	David Robson	Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada	7/6/2013

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

Fish	Line Class	Length	Angler	Where Caught	Date
CARPSUCKER (Quillback)	All-Tackle (only)	19"	Patric A. McDaniel	Salt Fork Lake, Ohio, USA	8/15/2013
DRUM/ Freshwater (Sheepshead)	16 lb.	32"	Steve Norris	Nickajack Headwaters, Tennessee, USA	8/20/2013
GAR/ Longnose	17 lb.	47"	David Carpenter	Tennessee River, Tennessee, USA	8/23/2013
MUSKELLUNGE/ Hybrid Or Tiger	15 lb.	45"	Conrad Proctor	Lake Luena, Michigan, USA	7/22/2013

DIVISION #2 - FLY FISHING

Fish	Line Class	Length	Angler	Where Caught	Date
MUSKELLUNGE/ Hybrid or Tiger	25 lb. Tippet	39"	Dan Small	St. Regis River, New York, USA	9/11/2013
SALMON/Atlantic (Sea-Run)	14 lb. Tippet	32"	Alan Madden	Patapedia River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/16/2013
	16 lb. Tippet	31"	Alan Madden	Patapedia River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/15/2013
	30 lb. Tippet	31"	Alan Madden	Patapedia River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/15/2013
TROUT/ Brook	14 lb. Tippet	22"	Alan Madden	Miramichi River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/23/2013
	15 lb.	20"	Alan Madden	Miramichi River, New Brunswick, Canada	6/23/2013



CATCH & RELEASE FISH



Dan Small
MUSKELLUNGE/Hybrid or Tiger
Division #2 - Fly Fishing
25 lb. tippet line class. 39"
St. Regis River, New York
9/11/2013



Steve Norris
DRUM (Freshwater)
Division #1 - Rod/Reel
16 lb. line class. 32"
Nickajack Headwaters, Tennessee
8/20/2013



Conrad Proctor
MUSKELLUNGE/Hybrid or Tiger
Division #1 - Rod/Reel
15 lb. line class. 45"
Lake Luena, Michigan
7/22/2013



Patric A. McDaniel
CARPSUCKER (Quillback)
Division #1 - Rod/Reel
All-Tackle (only) line class. 19"
Salt Fork Lake, Ohio
8/15/2013



KEPT FISH



Jeff L. Frederick
SUCKER/Largescale
Division #1 - Rod/Reel
All-Tackle line class
6 lb. 5 oz.
Moses Lake, Washington
8/23/2013



David Robson
WHITEFISH/Lake
Division #2 - Fly Fishing
10 lb. tippet line class
4 lb. 1 oz.
Talbot Lake, Alberta, Canada
7/24/2013



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