



THE SPLASH

Catch & Release Lake Trout

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John Cleveland, 10# tippet, 37 inches. Caught September 15,
2010 in Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Canada.



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- Recognition of World Fresh Water Sportfishing Records
- Record Book Published Annually
- Enshrinement for Achievement and Accomplishment
- Library for Research and Pleasure
- Educational Museum of Sportfishing Artifacts

*Museum open April 15 through October 31
7 days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

by Emmett Brown

I just came back from the 16th annual Chicago Muskie Show at Harper College in Illinois. What a tremendous job Tri-Esox has done with this show. Each year it just seems to get better and better. It

was great seeing some of my old friends and meeting new ones. I am truly blessed to work in such a wonderful industry as sportfishing. On Friday evening of this show we inducted famous Lake of the Woods, Minnesota guide Bill Sandy as a Legendary Guide. I know Bill was very humbled and grateful for his induction. I would like to personally thank Legendary Anglers Spence Petros, Larry Dahlberg and Steve Statland for helping me out with the ceremony. A huge thanks also goes to Steve for providing this venue to the Hall. Thank you to all who attended the ceremony.

I am often asked, "How do you get in to the Fishing Hall of Fame?" There is only one way, you have to be nominated. Please go to our website (www.freshwater-fishing.org) today and review the various categories we have for enshrinement and induction. If you see someone's name who is not there, nominate them. The process is simple and only takes about ten minutes to do. Furthermore, the nomination form can be completed and electronically sent to us from our website. Of course, nomination does not insure induction. Our selection committee meets annually in August and reviews many backgrounds for consideration. They select about ten to fifteen worthy individuals and organizations a year. However, this whole process starts solely with the nomination. Nominations are entirely dependent upon the outdoor media and the sportfishing public.

Someone said to me the other day, "Well I guess winter is here." That sentiment came home to roost when I returned to Hayward and found ten new inches of snow on my driveway. But I live in the land of snow plows and blowers, so it was quickly dispatched. I'm starting to accumulate some pretty good snow piles around my home. Of course, these piles are growing much to the delight of our new family pet. Her name is Bella and she's a "rescue" from Hayward's Northwoods Humane Society. Bella is a "Heinz 57" breed and seems genuinely appreciative of her new surroundings. Bella's new found joy is to find the bottom of every snow pile in our yard! For those who have the will and the room, I strongly suggest a "rescue" of your own. Besides being the right thing to do, you will find it deeply rewarding.



Bella, Megan Brown and a pike!

Those of us living in the northern climes, it's looking down an eight inch hole for the next few months. Those of you who have no idea what hard water (a.k.a. ice) looks like, get out and take advantage of it. Break out that new rod and reel Santa brought you today!

Regards,
Emmett A. Brown, Jr.
Executive Director

HALL AWARDS ARE PRESENTED



Gary Roach (left) presents F-M Walleyes Unlimited president Gary Sauvageau with their induction plaque at their December 2010 meeting. Thank you very much, Gary, for helping us out.



Hall Awards Committee member Larry Colombo (right) presents Kenny Keiser with his Hall Legendary Communicator plaque at the SEOPA (Southeastern Outdoor Press Association) annual awards dinner in October 2010, in Huntsville, Alabama. Congratulations to Kenny and a big thanks to Larry for representing the Hall.



Bill Sandy (left) is presented his Legendary Guide induction plaque by Hall executive director Emmett Brown last month at the Chicago Muskie Show at Harper College, Illinois. A big thanks goes to Tri-Esox and Legendary Angler Steve Statland for providing this wonderful venue to the Hall!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE HALL IN YOUR WILL

As most of you know, the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Service. As a non-profit, the Hall operates on a tight budget and is extremely dependent on the kind generosity of its supporters. Simply stated, we wouldn't be able to continue our service to the entire fresh water sportfishing community without your help.

Have you ever asked yourself, "How can I do more for the Hall?" Estate planning is certainly one of those ways. In the past, we have been blessed with several generous bequests. We are very thankful for them and they are never taken for granted. However, the need remains for continued supporter based generosity.

Of course, the gifts of cash or artifacts are the most common ways in which to remember the Hall. However, there are other avenues. Highly appreciated stocks are one of these means. Generally speaking, these stocks can be deducted not only at their original cost, but also in terms of their "paper profit" if they are older than one year. Mutual funds and real estate also offer the same benefit.

For most people, the most practical way to memorialize a family member is to gift through a will or living trust. If you feel the Hall is worthy of your continued support, please contact your lawyer or tax professional and discuss this with them. In turn, they are welcome to contact me directly.

Thank you.
Emmett A. Brown, Jr.
Executive Director

Correction: On page 3 of the November 2010 The Splash, in Richard O. Anderson's biography, it should read Missouri/Texas. Richard and his students did their research at the University of Missouri not Michigan.

MUSKIE ON THE FLY

By Robert Tomes, Fishing Hall of Fame Member

Not so long ago if you told someone you were planning to go muskie fishing using only a fly rod and a feathered hook you'd probably be told to have your head examined or, even worse, get laughed out of the local fly shop.

This response was entirely understandable given the well deserved reputation of muskies as an elusive freshwater trophy and, of course, the legendary fish of 10,000 casts. With the advent of graphite fly rods, synthetic fly tying materials, and specialized fly lines, however, a whole new world has opened up for those seeking a unique and challenging freshwater thrill with the long rod. And since the publication of my comprehensive, fully-illustrated book, *Muskie on the Fly* (Wild River Press 2008, www.muskieontheflybook.com), there's been a renaissance of serious fly anglers who now consider the mighty muskellunge their favorite quarry with a passion bordering on obsession.

Not surprisingly, many of these adventurous fly anglers are now enjoying world record holder status with the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, right up there with other traditionally popular warm water species, such as bass, pike and panfish. As Hall of Fame Executive Director Emmett Brown notes, "We have seen an explosion of line class records for muskellunge on the fly rod over the past several years. Sixteen of these twenty records (Catch & Release Division) have been broken/established since 2005. That, any way you measure it, is an explosion!"

Those hoping for their own records need not be intimidated by either the costs or the perceived difficulties of fly casting and fishing. These days a perfectly adequate muskie fly fishing set up (rod, reel, line & leader) can be had for as little as \$300 from your favorite fishing retailer. As for fly casting, with just a few hours of qualified instruction most anglers should be able to make the 20-60 ft casts required for this sport.

How to catch your first muskie on the fly? Well, after reading my book I highly



The business end of a muskellunge: Author Robert Tomes prepares to release yet another nice fish caught on the fly.

Fly Fishing Expert Robert Tomes
Recommended Muskie Fly Fishing Guides:
WISCONSIN:
Hayward Fly Fishing Company:
www.haywardflyfishingcompany.com
Don Larson: www.pondmonster.com
Tom Greenup: www.ashegonlakeresort.com
MINNESOTA:
Troy Anderson: www.muskieonthefly.com

recommend doing yourself a big favor and hiring a competent fly fishing guide. In fact, in just the past few years it's my understanding there are now increased numbers of muskie fly fishing guides available for hire from Wisconsin to Minnesota and beyond. But be forewarned, it pays to do your research!

Catching a few nice muskies on the fly may get a lot of attention but it does not diminish the need for a seasoned, competent and professional guide. Like any big game hunter, it takes years of experience on a given body of water to understand and anticipate the behaviors and movements of an apex predator such as the muskellunge. In addition to being honest and upfront about your prospects at a given time of year, a good guide will offer you helpful instruction on fly fishing technique, motivational words for those inevitable slow times, and, perhaps most important, be someone with whom you're

comfortable spending eight hours in the boat chasing this elusive fly rod trophy.

—Robert Tomes is a muskellunge Catch & Release Line Class World Record Holder.



Muskie fly fishing expert Robert Tomes with one of several line-class world records he's caught and released over the years.

PHOTO FROM THE PAST



This picture of our "Big Musky" was taken from the backside of the fish, during the early 1980's. This is a side that is not too often seen. I found it to be quite interesting. Do you think that swimmer is next? —Editor

WALLEYE WILD RICE SOUP

There's nothing like a hot bowl of delicious soup, and I'm sure you're going to like this one. And here's a tip: Make a bunch and freeze individual meals in ZipVac vacuum seal bags. Then when it's time for a bowl, you can boil the soup right in the bag.

- 1 6-ounce box long grain & wild rice soup mix
- 1/3 cup flour
- 4 cups milk
- 1-1/2 tbsp butter
- 1 small onion (chopped)
- 16 ounces clam juice
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1-1/2 cups Walleye filet cut into pieces
- Salt & pepper to taste

Prepare rice soup according to directions on box. Meanwhile, stir together flour, salt pepper and a 1/2 cup milk until smooth, set aside. In a sauce pan melt butter over med-low heat. Add onion and cook until tender. Increase heat to medium and stir in clam juice, cream and remaining milk; heat to a boil. Add flour mixture stirring constantly. Let boil 1 minute. Add fish pieces and rice soup mixture cook until fish flakes.

SAUCED FISH

Here's a delicious dish that's perfect for any kind of fish you have on hand. I like to serve it over a bed of rice or egg noodles, for a meal that will really stick to your ribs!

- 4 fish fillets
- 1 small onion (chopped)
- 4 oz fresh sliced mushrooms
- 6 tsp hot water
- 3 tbsp butter
- 3 tbsp flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1 tbsp fish and seafood seasoning
- Salt & pepper to taste

Place fish in a baking dish. In a sauce pan cook onions and mushrooms in water until semi tender. Add butter, stir in flour and mix well. Add milk and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Season the sauce and pour it over your fish. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 15-20 minutes until tender.

FISH DELIGHT

Creamy, creamy, creamy are three words that describe this favorite dish. Try it at your next fish dinner and make the whole family happy.

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1 cup Miracle Whip
- Pepper & garlic salt to taste
- 4 fish fillets
- 2 green onions (chopped)
- 1-1/2 cups shredded Swiss cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a mixing bowl combine cheese, miracle whip, pepper & garlic salt. Place fish in greased glass baking dish, spread mixture over fish and sprinkle with chopped onion. Bake until fish flakes, then sprinkle with cheese. Continue baking until cheese melts and serve it up hot!

GRILLED WINE & LEEK PIKE

This grilled dish is always a hit. Serve with a nice salad and buttered dinner rolls.

- 2 pieces heavy-duty aluminum foil
- 4 northern pike fillets (de-boned)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 leeks - white part (thinly sliced)
- 1 medium tomato (diced)
- 1/4 cup white wine (dry)
- 8-10 olives (pitted & sliced)
- 3-4 garlic cloves (minced)
- 2 tablespoons capers
- 1 teaspoon fresh oregano
- 1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar
- Salt & pepper to taste

Preheat grill. Lay fish on foil and brush with oil. Layer leeks, tomato, wine, olives, garlic, capers, oregano, vinegar, salt and pepper on top. Tightly crimp foil because you have to turn over. Lay on grill 8-10 minutes, turn and cook 3-4 minutes longer. Check to see if fish flakes. Remove from heat and serve.

NORTHERN SEAFOOD CASSEROLE

Here's a delicious dish my whole family enjoys. I'm sure yours will too!

- 1-1/2 lbs. northern pike (cooked)
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1/2 cup onion (chopped)
- 1 medium green pepper (finely chopped)
- 8 oz. can sliced water chestnuts (drained)
- 6 oz. can crab meat (drained)
- 4 oz. can shrimp, small (drained)
- 1/4 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 4 hard boiled eggs (sliced)
- 1/2 cup butter (melted)
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 2-quart casserole dish. In a large bowl, combine ingredients, except bread crumbs and butter. Place in casserole dish. Sprinkle on top with bread crumbs and drizzle with butter. Bake for 30 minutes or until hot.

SALMON SOUP

Salmon makes an amazing soup with a distinct flavor all its own. If you want to thicken up this soup and make it more like a stew, add some mashed potato flakes at the end, a little at a time, until you achieve the thickness you want.

- 1 tsp roasted garlic
- 3 1/2 quarts water
- 1 1/2 tbsp chicken base
- 1/2 onion (chopped)
- 1 tbsp parsley (chopped)
- 6 stalks of celery (chopped)
- 2 cups salmon (cooked and flaked)
- 3 medium potatoes (cubed)
- 2 tbsp seafood seasoning
- 1 tsp garlic salt

Simmer all vegetables and seasonings until tender. Add salmon and continue to simmer for about 30 minutes.

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



Fish by the thousands continue to fall for the old reliable lead-head jig baited with livebait as well as a wide variety of soft plastics. I can say, without hesitation, that “old reliable” has put countless fish in my livewell, as well as a few on the wall. I can’t think of another bait offering that comes close to matching the jig for all around performance and reliability. For those who still struggle to master this great fish catcher, here are a few tips that are sure to make your next fishing trip more productive.

Keep a variety of jig sizes and weights in your tackle box along with a selection of colors. Match the jig weight to the conditions you are faced with. More often than not, anglers fish with a jig that is too heavy. This is particularly true in shallower waters of 12 feet or less. If you are a non-river angler, I’d suggest loading up on jig weights of 1/16, 1/8, and 1/4 ounce. Rarely will you ever need a jig heavier than this (1/4 ounce) for any lake situation. You will end up using the 1/8 ounce size more than any other so make certain you have double the amount of this size. However, don’t discount the 1/16 oz. or the 1/4 ounce. Both have their time and place.

Personally, I am a big fan of the 1/16 ounce jig for many ultra shallow situations. Whenever I encounter fish in weeds, I am apt to use this size (1/16 ounce) more often. I’d also favor the 1/16 ounce nearly anytime fish are encountered in real shallow rocks or gravel areas. Think of the 1/16 ounce jig as nothing more than a modified “split shot and hook”. The only difference is the split shot is actually attached to the hook instead of clamped up on the line. Whenever you run into finicky fish, you will almost always catch way more of them on a 1/16 ounce.

The 1/8 ounce jig is the true must-have, all around size. It can be fished shallow, mid range and deep with equal success. It is definitely the most versatile of the three must-have jig



sizes. I’ll lean on a 1/8 ounce for these same shallow fish in weeds or shallow rock and gravel when there’s strong winds and wave action. A bit more weight control is needed in this situation. Wind and wave action destroy the feel and control of a 1/16 ounce.

The 1/8 ounce also allows you to speed fish the jig more. When the water gets warmer, or the bite is cranked up, there’s often no need to fish slow. While the 1/16 ounce forces you to slow down your presentation, the heavier weight of the 1/8 ounce jig enables you to fish faster. This might not be desirable in a cold front, but the faster retrieve is sure to trigger more strikes from active fish in favorable weather. It is important to remember that fish don’t always want a slow, methodical “drag” retrieve. When a school of fish gets active, they get competitive. Speed will often trigger more bites in this situation. A heavier weight jig will then outfish the lighter version.

This same 1/8 ounce jig is also a good deep water when fish want a slow drop. In this case, the 1/8 ounce performs the same task as the 1/16 ounce version did in shallow water. It takes a lot longer for the bait to reach the bottom in 12 to 18 feet of water than it does a 1/4 ounce. Anytime you encounter deeper fish that are again a bit finicky, they’ll probably

respond better to a slower drop. The 1/8 ounce jig is sure to catch you more fish in this scenario. It is also an outstanding shallow water river jig.

The 1/4 ounce jig is the lake fishermen’s deep water choice as well as the best all around jig for river anglers. I lean heavily on the 1/4 ounce jig whenever I encounter fish deeper than 18 feet in lakes and whenever there is strong current in a river. If there’s a strong wind blowing and the waves are fairly large, I’ll go to the 1/4 ounce in shallower waters, too.

Finally, make sure you purchase the same weight jigs with several hook sizes. Always match hook size to the bait size. The overall size profile of the jig should never overshadow the trailing bait. Remember, the jig is really nothing more than a “split shot and hook”. Instead of the weight being pinched up on the line, it is attached directly to the hook.

**Please visit Joe at the 2011
Madison, Wisconsin Fishing Expo
on February 26th & 27th,
Saturday and Sunday.
Joe will be speaking both days!**



**Please visit Joe’s website at
www.joebucher.com**

THE INCREDIBLE, EDIBLE JIG By Legendary Angler Babe Winkelman

There's a common item found in military survival kits from many countries. It's the common fishing jig, along with a length of strong monofilament line. Why a jig? Because it's the most universal fish-catching lure in existence. It's also the most versatile. You can throw a jig out and just let it lay on the bottom. You can suspend it beneath a float. You can swim it, hop it, drag it, or do whatever you want with it to catch fish in streams, rivers, lakes and oceans. Basically, wherever you find fish, a jig can catch them.

I wonder how many GIs have saved their own skin over the years by taking that jig and line out of their survival kit to catch some life-saving protein. Now, when we jig fish it's to have some fun and perhaps put a meal of fish on the table for our families. A far cry from "needing" to catch a fish to survive. But the lesson we can learn from soldiers is that the jig is a proven way to catch fish. So you can always tie one on with total confidence.

I for one love to bass fish with jigs, and I think I'm pretty good at it. One of the reasons I'm a successful jig fishermen is that I keep my approach simple. It begins with locating fish. Obviously, you can't catch fish if they aren't there. This article won't go into the exercise of finding fish. You can write entire books on the subject. Rather, I'd just like to share some of my jig fishing recommendations to help you catch more fish.

Jig Selection. Good grief there are a lot of jigs out there! If you don't already have a collection of favorites (based on past successes), the task of selecting bass jigs can be daunting. But, like I said before, keeping things simple is the way to go. So I recommend that every jig box, at a MINIMUM, should contain three different sizes (1/8, 1/4 and 3/8-ounce) in at least three different head colors (white, black and chartreuse). I strongly suggest that some of these jigs be mushroom-head "jigworm" or "shaky-worm" style jigs with long hook shanks. Ask the guy at the tackle store for them and he'll point you in the right direction.

The array of plastic jig bodies available is as overwhelming as buying jigs when you go shopping. In the spirit of simplicity,



must-haves are three sizes of curly-tailed grubs/worms (2, 4 and 6-inch models); with my three favorite colors being purple, pumpkin and black. You'll also boost your bass-catching percentages by keeping a selection of tubes on-hand. I don't know why, but sometimes a bass will ignore the skinny profile of a worm but attack a fat tube jig with a vengeance.

Allow me to reiterate something at this point. I'm keeping it simple with these recommendations. There are literally dozens of other jig/body combinations that I won't hit a weedline without. Like me, once you get hooked on jig fishing for bass, you'll quickly amass more jigs, grubs, worms, tubes, creatures, etc. than you know what to do with.

Jigging Hotspots. There are basically three top locations where jigging is dynamite: weedlines (inside and outside), weedless structure (rocks, reefs, sand breaks), and docks. Jig selection and technique will vary depending upon which location you're fishing and what the conditions are (season, water depth, clarity and temperature, etc.).

Again, you could write a book on these locations alone. But we're keeping it simple, right? So, for inside and outside weedlines, I'll go immediately to a 1/4-ounce mushroom-head jig with a long hook shank and a 6-inch purple worm. With that bait, you can systematically pick apart a weedline. Be patient with the bait. Let it fall and be ready for a bite on the drop. Don't be afraid to fish it slow when it finds bottom, and even let it sit motionless for 5-

10 seconds before twitching or dragging it. A lot of bass will strike a "dead-stick" worm but leave it alone if it's moving.

On weedless structure like rocks and sand breaks, particularly if it's in deeper water, you can't go wrong with a 3/8-ounce jig with a 2-inch grub body. It falls fast, so it becomes a good search bait that allows you to cover a lot of water. Plus, its rapid rise-drop makes this jig resemble the erratic action of a darting crayfish or minnow. Concentrate hard when jig fishing this way. The bites can be light. Depending on your preferences, you may opt for the sensitivity of braided line for deep-water jigging. Whatever line you do use, watch it with an eagle's eye. Often, you'll see the bite when your line "jumps" before you actually feel the fish.

When fishing docks, I'll go to a 1/4-ounce jig with a tube. The wide profile of the tube makes it great for skipping the jig back to the dark confines of the dock. And the lighter jig weight gives the bait a nice slow fall, so it stays in the strike zone longer.

Two other things: First, there's some great largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing opportunities in our nation's rivers. And the simple jig is tailor-made for fishing current. I have to say, one of my favorite techniques is to cast jigs and let them tumble with the current. Detecting the bite is more challenging than it is in static water. But when you develop the "feel" for it, holy cow can you catch a ton of fish!

And finally, a lot of you are wondering, 'Babe, what about weedless jig-and-pig style baits in the slop?' You're right. That's jigging too. But I classify that more as a flipping or pitching presentation with a whole different batch of factors involved. I'll write about that in an upcoming column.

Hey, I know I barely scratched the tip of the iceberg when it comes to jig fishing for bass. But that's OK. My goal is simply to get you thinking more about jigging as a sure-fire technique for better bass fishing. After all, the fact that the military puts a jig in every survival kit must mean something. Good Fishing!

For more tips and tactics from Babe visit his website at www.winkelman.com

AL LINDNER LOGS HIS 41ST CONSECUTIVE YEAR ON TV

Amid Vast Changes In The World Of Sports Fishing Some Things Remain A Staple—A LOVE FOR FISHING

Producing yet another spectacular new television season; Al, Ron, James and Daniel Lindner fight to keep anglers ahead of the curve, all with a crew that is dedicated to teaching viewers how to catch more and bigger fish by using the absolute latest in tackle with technology and tactics starting January 1, 2011.

What truly began as a family's love affair with fishing while growing up in Chicago, Illinois has developed into one of the most influential voices in the world of sport fishing for Al and Ron Lindner. Remembering when...

Al Lindner: "...Around 1948...I was about four or five years old at our summer cabin on Grindstone Lake in Wisconsin...the water was really clear and there was one big rock with a smallmouth bass that we would see while swimming. I would wade and stand really still with a fishing rod and night crawler and WAIT for that smallmouth bass...it was the thrill of a lifetime and I would DREAM of that every winter... and couldn't wait to get to the cottage every summer after that..."

Ron Lindner: "...I was only about five or so while on a family vacation on Lake Ripley in Cambridge WI. My parents would take me out in the afternoon in a wooden rowboat (one that tended to leak—a trusty coffee can for bailing water was always onboard!) we used cane poles and bobbers with minnows. That was 1939! We fished for crappies...we then cleaned and fried them. My best memories were always fishing with my family."

Time passes; equipment improves and lure innovations all challenge anglers to learn. Al and Ron's earliest fishing memories are an amazing testament from their own nostalgic family upbringing in 12-foot wood boats with oars to today's 250 horsepower, 20' fully equipped boats with satellite and GPS and more.

This season's episodes of Lindner's Angling Edge tackles vexing angling prob-



1969 Virgil Ward, Al Lindner

lems, some are old problems with innovative solutions, while others are totally new in scope. Each episode of the Edge takes viewers to the cutting edge of today's world of angling to "drive to" fishing destinations—places the every day angler fishes.

"Besides the Angling Edge veteran staff members (Dave Csanda, Rich Eckholm, Gary McEnelly and Dan Sura), a "Young Guns of Angling" contingent made up of Jeremy Smith, Troy Lindner, Dan Lindner,

Mike Hehner, Nick Lindner, Jeff Gustafson, and Ryan DeChaine were added to provide a "right now" youthful quality to our Edge programs." - Al Lindner

Following is just a taste of what's new in fishing on the Angling Edge in 2011—stay tuned!

- Side imaging and down imaging technology—understanding how it works.
- A breakthrough segment on how to actually use cold fronts to your advantage
- How water clarity effects muskies in rivers—ABC's for locating and catching 'ski's.
- Catching small river catfish during tough summer low-water conditions—Cats 101
- Electronic mapping for finding and staying on crappie through the ice—revolutionary!
- An all-new, deadly method for catching deep-water walleye—You won't believe this!
- Suspended smallmouth tactics—get on these overlooked fish!
- Big baits for giant largemouth bass—who knew?
- Plus, multi-species segments that will appeal to anglers throughout all of North America

Check local listings for Lindner's Fishing Edge schedule.





OL' TACKLE TALK

Chris Slusar

AMERICAN ROWBOAT MOTORS

While fishing on the far edges of a lake, I'll occasionally think about the machine that got me to that special place and acknowledge what a feat it would be to reach the same spot 100+ years ago, probably rowing. Today's outboard motors are incredible works of engineering and design, capable of pushing our boats with great ease and speed. So, what are the origins of the modern outboard motor?

The earliest outboards are typically described by the term "rowboat motor". Dating to the late 19th and early 20th century, these motors were designed to replace the oar power propelling rowboats of the day. Generally, these motors are one cylinder and started by manually turning a heavy fly wheel. Although intended as a portable machine, many were made of cast iron and brass and often exceeded 50 pounds.

It is thought that the first internal combustion rowboat motor was produced by the American Motor Company of New York, New York around 1897. The company advertised that its \$175 motor could propel a boat at 6 to 8 miles per hour. Quite expensive at the time, the high cost likely contributed to low production. Although public references are available, an example of the American has not been found- something to look for at the next rummage or auction!

The first commercially successful rowboat motor is generally attributed to Waterman Marine Motor Co. of Detroit, Michigan. Actual production of this motor began in 1906, with a scant 24 units sent out to the market. This first model was an air-cooled, single cylinder, with a fuel tank mounted to the tiller handle. The early Waterman's

are strikingly handsome pieces of machinery and highly valued by the collector community.

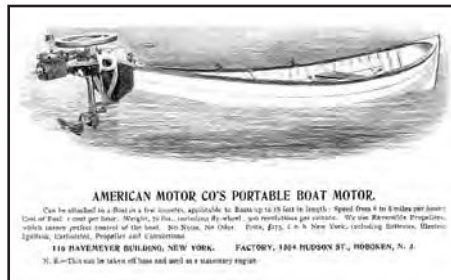
In 1910, Ole Evinrude of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, entered the rowboat motor market and was an immediate competitor to the likes of Waterman and others. The Evinrude mechanical design is credited as the forerunner of the modern outboard. The earliest motors generated 1.5 horsepower and cost \$62, one dollar for each of its 62 pounds.

From the mid 1890's to the mid 1920's, more than 40 companies engaged in the manufacture of rowboat motors. The stories behind many are entertaining and a testament to the entrepreneurial spirit that drove early 20th century America. Today, most

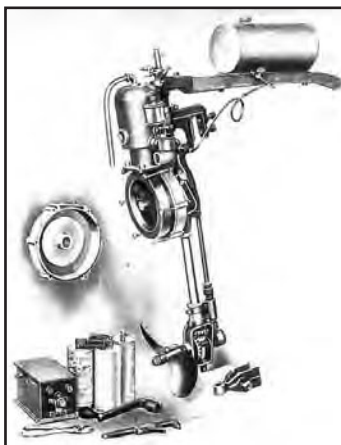
rowboat motors are quite collectible, but can vary widely in value. Make, model and condition are all influencing factors. Generally, early rowboat motor collectors prefer pieces that are not refurbished, so consider this before heavily cleaning or replacing authentic parts (should you be lucky enough to own one!).

The American Rowboat Motor, by Arlan Carter, is a wonderful reference if you would like to learn more about the history and identification of early outboards. Those interested in ordering a book can contact Arlan at www.fallcreektradingco.com or call (800) 695-6017.

Until next time, please do forward your old fishing tackle questions or requests to slusar@wi.rr.com. Alternatively, send your queries to Chris Slusar in care of the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame.



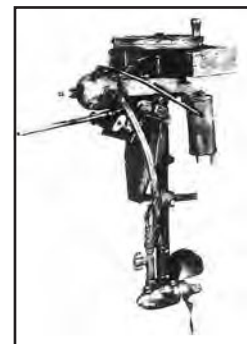
This ad is from the American Motor Co.'s 1897 brochure.



The above image is from the 1907 Waterman Marine Motor Co. catalog. Notice the gas tank mounted on the tiller handle.



The upper unit of an early teens Evinrude rowboat motor.



This picture was taken in 1925 and represents the 12th production motor made by Evinrude. Evinrude offered a new motor in exchange for earliest model turned in during a promotional contest. The winning motor was No. 12. Unfortunately, the motor was accidentally discarded years later.

TIPS FOR TEXAS RIG

By Legendary Angler Roland Martin

Probably the most successful bass lure currently known to fishermen is the Texas worm rig—a weighted soft plastic worm with the hook point imbedded. In the early years the hardness didn't make any difference because the hook was exposed. Until about 1964, most worms had hard bodies, and the traditional way to fish them was with weedless hooks. But by the late 1960s, worms of much softer plastic were manufactured. I don't know who gets credit for it, but some Texas fishermen were taking plain 5/0 and 6/0 Sproat hooks and imbedding the hook into the soft worm so that the point was concealed. There was no weed guard, just the plastic itself. When the hook was set, the point and barb came through the soft plastic



and hooked the fish. At the time, this was a popular lure in lakes around the

Dallas and San Antonio area.

There are some advantages to the Texas worm rig over the old weedless-hook style of worm fishing. The biggest advantage is it's more compact and streamlined. We're using cone-shaped bullet worm weights instead of split shot or the old egg sinkers. The cone shaped weights swim their way through grass and other cover much better. Also, the hook is less exposed. The real advantage, though with the Texas rig is the fact that it can be snaked, crawled, and jigged across almost any bottom surface.

For more tips and tactics by Roland Martin visit his web site at www.fishingwithrolandmartin.com.

TIPS FOR BETTER BOAT CONTROL

By Legendary Angler Gary Roach - Mr. Walleye

1 - Boat control is easy when the current is slow or the wind is calm, but that is only about 10 percent of the time. During much of the open-water season, when fish are concentrated on structure it is imperative that you keep the boat right where the fish are if you want to be successful.

2 - Any boat over 18 feet long should have at least one drift sock. I carry two. On those windy days when you could drift a reef or a weedline you can maintain a productive drift speed and control the position of the boat with a bow or transom-mounted electric motor.

3 - Trolling has become a simple process with the introduction of the



GPS and map chip combination. With this handy tool anglers that like to weave a snaky weedline can do it with ease just by following the contour map on the GPS screen.

4 - On the river I often use both my gas and electric motor. The gas motor is set to keep the nose of the boat into the current with a slight slip downstream and the electric motor positions the boat wherever it needs to be in the channel.

5 - The ultimate boat control is an anchor, actually two anchors. When you find fish concentrated in a spot an anchor off the bow and transom to hold the boat in position is as good as it gets.

WINNER OF A DAY OF FISHING WITH AL LINDNER IS ANNOUNCED!

This year's lucky winner is Hall member John Hill of Jefferson, Wisconsin. Congratulations John!

John will be spending a day of fishing with Hall enshrinee Al Lindner this spring/summer on a Minnesota lake. All John had to do for this, was to merely upgrade his Hall membership to the Gold or Platinum level. This is a Hall exclusive. Al has graciously agreed to do it again for the the 2012 season. It could be you next year.

Thank you very much, Al!

Last year's winner Robert Taylor of Circle Pines, Minnesota is all smiles as he holds a very nice smallmouth bass with Al Lindner.



WORLD ANGLING RECORDS GRANTED

1st QUARTER - 2011 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
PIKE/ Northern	36	29-4	Wendel D. Holloway	Nungesser Lake, Ontario, Canada	9/15/2010
	45	28-5	John Lucas	Nungesser Lake, Ontario, Canada	9/8/2010
TROUT/ Brown	17	34-1	Matthew P. Reel	Lake Michigan, Wisconsin, USA	9/10/2010

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

Fish	Line Class	Length	Angler	Where Caught	Date
CARPSUCKER/ River	All Tackle (only)	29"	Phyllis Hull	Chickamauga Dam, Tennessee, USA	10/31/2010

GAR/ Longnose	All Tackle (only)	51"	Ted Marlatt	John's Lake, Florida, USA	12/4/2010
MUSKELLUNGE/ Natural (Albino)	All Tackle (only)	51"	Paul Parise	Flambeau River, Wisconsin, USA	10/06/2010
OSCAR	All Tackle (only)	12"	Patric A. McDaniel	Lake Dwarf, Florida, USA	10/19/2010
PICKEREL/ Chain	15 lb.	25"	Ed Raymond	Noxontown Pond, Delaware, USA	11/21/2010
SALMON/ Atlantic (Inland)	6 lb.	22"	Richard Banasieski	Swift River, Massachusetts, USA	11/10/2010
	8 lb.	23"	Richard Banasieski	Swift River, Massachusetts, USA	11/10/2010

DIVISION #2 - FLY FISHING

Fish	Line Class	Length	Angler	Where Caught	Date
SALMON/ Atlantic, Inland	10 lb. tippet	23"	Carroll M. Ware	McKenzie River, Labrador, Canada	8/17/2010

CATCH & RELEASE FISH



Richard Banasieski
Atlantic (Inland) Salmon, 23",
Swift River, MA,
11/10/10.



Ted Marlatt Longnose Gar, All Tackle, 51",
John's Lake, FL, 12/4/10.

KEPT FISH



Paul Parise Natural (Albino) Muskellunge, All Tackle, 51",
Flambeau River, WI, 10/6/10.



Phyllis Hull River Carpsucker, All Tackle, 29",
Chickamauga Dam, TN, 10/31/10.



Wendel Holloway
Northern Pike, 29-4,
Nungesser Lake, Ontario,
Canada, 9/15/10.



Matthew P. Reel
Brown Trout, 34-1, Lake Michigan, WI, 9/10/10.



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