

F.A.T.C. NEWS

Florida Antique Tackle Collectors Newsletter

Volume 29, Number 2



**1933
Leesburg
National
Bass
Tournament**



CASTING "back in time"



THE BAGLEY LIT'L JOHN



The Gentleman's Stream-liner

FATC Daytona Beach Winter Show

Many thanks to our Show Hosts, Larry Lucas and Stephanie Duncan.



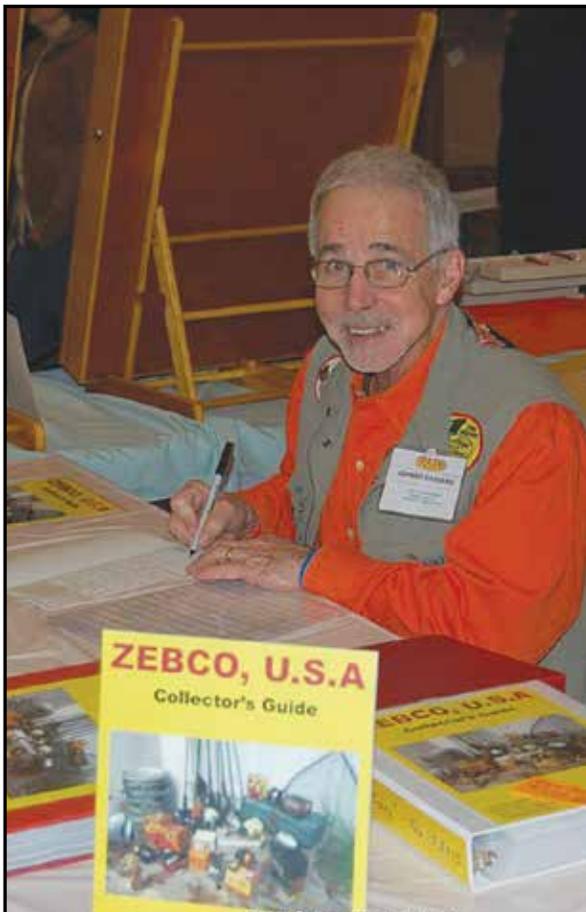
Vann Clay lures—part of Jack Fenwick's winning display



Great spread of frogs



Chuck Heddon getting his display in order



Johnny Garland with his new book



Heddons, big and tough!



Registration desk getting started



Table layout - 300+ tables



A fine gathering of Bagley Baits



Arthur & Karen Edwards' display of Jan Cummings lures



Extremely rare Dixie bait



Plenty for sale



Remarkable Heddon lures



Gene Meisberger with a small corner of his Heddon flyrod bait display



20/0 Knowles tuna reel from the 1930's



More rare Heddens



Rare and nice lures



An all-red Spindiver



A good auction crowd is gathering



Co-host Stephanie Duncan shows the way



Dave Rutherford took the Best of Show award



Joe Yates won the President's Award



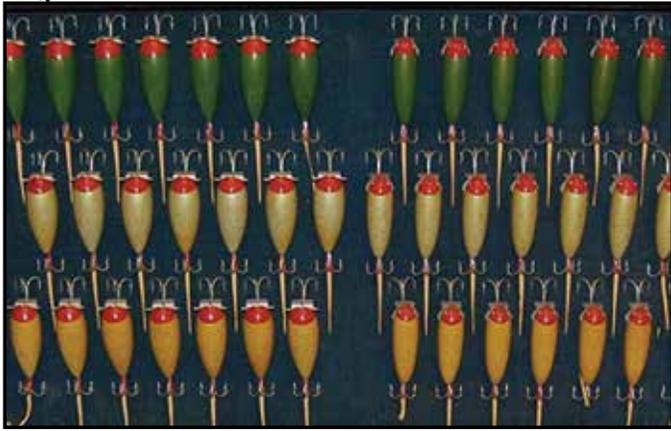
Butch Carey accepts the award for Best Reel Display



Jack Fenwick with his Best Color Collection award



Mac Hoover was recognized for his outstanding display



The famous Pemberton suitcase!



Rainbow Fire and Fireplug Creek Chubs



One row of great color collections



Nice, varied Florida lures

Thanks to all who helped with my collection!

~Chuck

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Heddon
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FATC Awards Criteria

It has come to our attention that many of our FATC members are not aware of the various benchmarks used to judge the exhibits at our FATC shows. The following is a synopsis of the criteria used to reach our decisions:

- Educational Information
- Identification & Labeling
- Rarity
- Completeness
- Condition
- Overall Presentation
- Uniqueness and/or Originality

An exhibitor who wins a major award at one show is not eligible to win another major award for the same or similar exhibit for a period of one year. This exhibitor however, may win a major award within this time period if they display an exhibit that is entirely different.

Exhibit cards with the name of the exhibit and the owners name should be displayed prominently on their exhibit. These cards can be obtained at the registration desk.

Thank you,
Awards Committee – Mike Hall & Tom Wilkerson

WANTED TO BUY OR TRADE

**SOUTHERN BAIT COMPANY,
FLORIDA LURE BOXES, LURES OR
LITERATURE**

**Frank Carter, Tallahassee, FL
850-574-9718 email: fandi@comcast.net**



F.A.T.C. NEWS

**The Newsletter of the Florida
Antique Tackle Collectors, Inc.**

May 2015 Volume 29, No. 2

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Our central location puts you 30 minutes or less from major attractions such as: Disney World®, MGM, Epcot, Universal Studios, and Sea World.

President's Message

Ed Weston



I just got back from the CATC show in Greenville, South Carolina and the Carolina folks are still talking about the Florida Antique Tackles Collectors' Extravaganza in Daytona. A big "thank you" goes out to Larry Lucas and Stephanie Duncan for making the Daytona International Show the best ever. I have heard nothing but compliments on how well it was run and organized. I also want to recognize Mike and Susan Mais who directed our Saturday night auction, Dennis McNulty our auctioneer and all the other volunteers who dedicated their time to make the show a success.

Our next FATC show is hosted by Mike Hall on June 12, 13 & 14 at the Holiday Isle Oceanfront Resort on the St. Augustine beach. Mike always does a fabulous job hosting a show and his shows are always a great success. For the St. Augustine show just don't go the show, make it an event. Get to the hotel a day or two early. St. Augustine is the oldest city in the United States and a unique place to visit. Go down town and get a trolley, your ticket is for two days. You can get on and off at all the amazing sites in the city as many times as you desire.

A few places to visit in St. Augustine are the old fort (Fort Castillo de San Marco), The Pirate and Treasure Museum, the Old School House, the Lightner Museum, Alligator Farm, Fountain of Youth, Ripley's Believe It or Not and it goes on and on. Then there are fabulous places to eat. Let me recommend one. The "Columbia Restaurant" is the oldest, operating restaurant in the state of Florida. When you go there be sure to try their 1905 Salad, either as a meal or a side. You won't be disappointed. If you want something really special to do that night, go on a "Ghost Tour." What a blast!

I know I am sounding like a representative of the St. Augustine Chamber of Commerce but when you attend one of our FATC tackle shows I want everyone to have fun and enjoy the experience.

The very next week after the FATC St. Augustine show, June 17-20, Ed Pritchard and Butch Carey will be hosting the ORCA National Convention. It will be at the IGFA Hall of Fame & Museum in Dania Beach, Florida. Here is an event you should try to attend.

"Knowledge is king", especially when you are a collector of antique tackle. Let me make you aware of two books that have just been released which I have purchased and I really believe add to the information you need as a collector. The first is "The Fred Arbogast Jitterbug Collectors Guide" by Sam Van Camp. This book tells everything you would want to know about Jitterbugs. The second one is "Zebco, USA Collector's Guide" by Johnny Garland. This book is a pictorial guide of Zebco reels made in the USA from 1949-1999 with approximately 1500 photographs. Both books deserve your consideration.

As always, remember: The best part of tackle collecting is not the treasures you purchase but the friends you make along the way. See you in St. Augustine. 🐟



Editor Notes

Gary Simpson

Most of us enjoy not only vintage angling artifacts, but also the history of sport fishing. If there's anything neater to me than finding a folky old Florida-made plug, it's speaking with the man who can tell me when, where, and how he used it. I have vague memories of a wilder Florida, and have often wondered what it must have been like to fish when the state was still really wild.

My lifelong job as tackle salesman has allowed me to meet lots of old fishermen and gain such glimpses of the earlier days. And, once in a while, I'm still fortunate enough to meet an angler whose experience goes back a bit farther than my own.

When I see Jimmy Cole's truck pull up in the Gary's Tackle Box parking lot, I sometimes catch myself smiling involuntarily. Jimmy is a bass fisherman through-and-through, having been raised as one of a clan of bass fishers in High Springs. Now 67, he loves to reminisce, and one can feel the almost inexpressible essence of the earlier days of the bassing experience when he speaks. "I was ten years old when my daddy gave me my first Jim Pfeffer. We mostly fished them with Shakespeare President reels on solid fiberglass rods, with black nylon line".

To this day, Jim fishes the Orlando Shiner...but his favorite pastime is topwater fishing with the Cast Top. Among the Cole anglers, there was great pride in the intricate tuning of the propeller; and exquisite accuracy in casting was a must. "You have to put it right between the water and the bank. When you've made the perfect cast, you have to wait a long time between twitches—and when you know he's down there looking at it, that's hard to do (my uncle kept a bottle under his boat seat when he threw his topwaters. He'd tell me, 'I have an advantage over the bass. I have nerve tonic'). But there's nothing like when it looks like somebody dropped a watermelon on your plug".

He grew up fishing Pfeffers in the Santa Fe and Suwannee Rivers, and in the numerous flatwoods ponds of North Central Florida—and he still does. "It was fun in its day", he smiles, "and it's still fun to me".

A bit later in life, while he was in school in Orlando, Jimmy would actually strike up a friendship with Jim Pfeffer, who lived "two streets down". He often visited Pfeffer in his work shop and watched the old man paint his famous fish catchers. As you can imagine plenty more stories can be told from these days and nights.

Anyway, the whole point of this is that Jimmy Cole has just joined the Florida Antique Tackle Collectors, and I'm stoked. Hopefully, you can meet him at Mike Hall's upcoming St. Augustine show. An avid Pfeffer collector, he will be a great member.

This issue of the FATC News revisits another stellar Daytona show presented and run flawlessly by Larry Lucas and Stephanie Duncan.

Doug Brace continues our education regarding the variations that might be found of Florida's most avidly-collected wooden tackle boxes; and Rick Osterholt takes us back to the time of Florida's earliest bass fishing tournaments.

Craig Comjean's piece on the Bagley Lit'l John lure presents a perfect example of luremaking ingenuity—and of the old saying, "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade".

Charlie Tanner shares little-known details about the Gentleman Streamliner rod/reel combination, a pleasing-to-the-eye favorite among tackle collectors.

As always, "Thanks" to these FATC News contributors. We all hope you enjoy this issue. 

CASTING - "back in time"...

D.J. Brace

The now out of print, *Fishing Collectibles Magazine* - Summer 1991, published an article I wrote; titled "**J.W. Gilson, Florida's Premier Tackle Box Maker**". In the years that followed, tackle collectors continued to add Gilson's recognizable laminated, wood tackle boxes to their collections. Years later due to continued interest, the same article was reprinted in the F.A.T.C. News Vol. 20, No. 3, 2006.

This article chronicled Gilson's tackle box endeavor which had its beginnings in Stuart, Florida, during the 1930's; we'll call this **Phase 1**. In the early 1950's, Charles Smith, an employee of Gilson, acquired the business. Renamed, Driftwood Company, the tackle boxes by Smith continued to be made in the Gilson style; we'll call this **Phase 2**.

Several weeks ago, F.A.T.C. Honorary Member, Bill Stuart Jr., called to ask if I was familiar with a Stuart, Florida tackle box labeled "CLEECO"? I was not; however, Bill provided follow-up contact phone numbers for individuals with information. What follows can be described as **Phase 3**; the story of CLEECO.



The name "CLEECO" was the combination of the names of two business partners; Clive Quigg, of Jensen Beach, Florida and Lee Higbee of nearby Palm City. Higbee operated a wood-working business in the "Golden Gate" area of Stuart, Florida. Here he produced kitchen cabinets for his brother Ernie, who was a local building contractor. In Quigg's words, "Lee had a history of working with wood; previously, in Miami, Lee made wooden toys".

Quigg commented he was President of Florida Litho Service, Inc., a local business that dealt with photographic images. The "CLEECO" business, formed

in 1961, was a partnership in the tackle box business only. The partnership evolved from their frequent meetings at "JERRY'S", advertised as "Sportsman's Headquarters", a well-known Stuart watering hole for anglers and fishing guides alike.



Higbee brought a third individual into the new tackle box business; local Stuart resident, **John W. Gilson**. The Cleeco tackle box was based on Gilson's earlier designs but with some improvements. Outwardly, the tackle box looked the same but came with an improved swivel wood handle; the inside and outside were still designed with rounded corners.



The Cleeco box contained an improved change to the interior. When opened, the lid now locked into an upright position. No longer was there a lure storage compartment in the lid; upon opening, an inside tray rose up into that area. A newly designed lower tray slid from left to right, revealing contents within large divided



compartments (the tray could also be removed). Additionally, both the interior lid and lower box appear to be a "sandwiching" of the outer plywood, coupled to a solid curved interior.

Now in his late 60's, Gilson was back making tackle boxes once again! Hampered by a bad leg, Gilson was fondly nick-named "Speedy", around the warehouse shop. While providing both his knowledge and labor, Gilson was also able to furnish his former "client list" to Quigg and Higbee.



This is taken from a 1960 POLK City Directory for Stuart, Fl.

Quigg, out of necessity, became the firm's sales representative for the tackle boxes. In addition to the local tackle shops, sporting goods stores and hardware stores, the Cleeco tackle box was also sold at Lee's Hobby Center. The shop, located on Osceola Street in Stuart, was operated by Higbee's wife, Evelyn. According to Quigg, the Cleeco box was watertight. To that end, Quigg would demonstrate

that a fully-loaded Cleeco would float. He also noted that the Cleeco tackle box became "something of a status symbol among anglers". This may be what led Quigg on a road trip to famous Palm Beach. Here, the equally famous Abercrombie & Fitch operated a "winter only" store in Royal Poinciana Plaza. Quigg was successful in negotiating a sales proposal with the store's manager.

The CLEECO tackle box business came to an end, after only a few short years, when Higbee moved to Florida's West Coast for a better job. The Cleeco tackle box pictured here was Quigg's personal box he used for sales calls; over the years it has received excellent care! To date, this is the only example I have personally heard of or seen. When I attempted to arrive at a total production number, Quigg reminded me that in the short period of time the partners were together, each had other business interests that would occupy their time. He was confident that less than 500 Cleeco boxes were made. My question is... Where are they???

To date, the interest in Gilson tackle boxes is still strong. At the recent 2015 Daytona Beach Antique Fishing Tackle Show, ownership of at least 1 Gilson box changed hands and another Gilson was headed out of state to be restored.

Note: A special thanks is extended to Clive Quigg and to F.A.T.C. member Jim Silveira for wanting to know more. 🐟



Clive Quigg with his personal CLEECO



The CLEECO box measuring 18x9x8 inches (excluding handle), was about 2-inches shorter than previous GILSON boxes.

THE BAGLEY LIT'L JOHN— Born From a Mistake

Craig Comjean

Born from a mistake, the Bagley Lit'l John was the last lure made by the Winter Haven, Bagley Bait Company. The unplanned manufacture of this lure occurred in 1998, when a run of Bang-o-lures had been mis-cut for lips and were to be scrapped. Mr. Jim Ingle, who was in upper management with Bagley, suggested that they cut the tails off the Bang-o-lures in question and make a "popper" out of them—kind of like the Rebel Pop-R baits.

Just like that the Lit'l John was invented.

Because the Lit'l John was created just before the Bagley Bait Company was seized by the government for back taxes, it never appeared in any Bagley catalogues. True USA Lit'l John's have screw eyes for the tail hardware, while those with twisted wire were made in the Dominican Republic, and are not considered collectible by Bagley collectors. Lit'l John's are a great inexpensive Bagley collection to put together, with only twelve total colors known. The colors are RHW, PI, NP4, TS, 6F, 6M4, 294, BN, H69T, SH4, PGS3 and 604. The rarest colors are RHW, which usually sells for \$50.00+, and the extremely hard-to-find 604, which sells for \$125.00+. It seems that the 604 color went mostly to Japan. The other colors sell for \$20-25.00 loose with PI, a popular collector color, going for \$35.00. With the production of Lit'l Johns being very low, they are somewhat hard to find in the field but are easy to come by at lure shows. Most of the Lit'l Johns were shipped to the Japanese market...and that may account for their scarcity here in the U.S.

The Lit'l John, born from a mistake, was the last production American-made Bagley bait.

Start your collection today!!





NOKOMIS/OSPREY FALL SHOW

OCTOBER 9-10-11, 2015

Fri & Sat 8am-5pm

Sun 8am-12pm

SHOW LOCATION: Bentley's Hotel – 1660 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Fl. 34229

ACCOMODATIONS: Bentley's Hotel 941-966-2121 or BentleysSarasota.com

F.A.T.C. Block rate for standard room in the Virago wing: \$99.

Suites & upgrades also available.

Cut off date to secure room rate: August 31, 2015

Beautiful newly renovated hotel on US 41, minutes from I-75. Amenities include Tiki bar, pool, restaurant. Plus lots of great dining & worldclass beaches nearby!

TABLE & REGISTRATION: Registration \$15 per member. **Membership must be current.**

8 ft tables - \$35 each, wall or aisle.

REGISTRATION FORM & SHOW HOST INFO:

Please make checks payable to FATC and send to show host, or register and pay online at FATC.NET

Rick Vaughn

117 Charles Dr

Nokomis, Fl 34275 ~ Fishboy6500@yahoo.com

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE & EMAIL: _____

GUEST NAME: _____

REGISTRATION NEEDED: _____ X \$15 = \$ _____

TABLE QUANTITY: _____ X \$35ea = \$ _____

TABLES: WALL OR AISLE? (Circle One) * TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

The Gentleman's Stream-liner

Charlie Tanner

In 1945, Nobel A. Nelson came to investors, Harold Freevol and Samuel Smedberg of Associated Specialties, with his invention of a rod-reel combination. 'Associated' operated at 5803 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago.

Harold and Sam liked the idea and pulled in two more investors, Howard Brandon and Carl Anderson.

Nelson applied for a new patent; and patent number 2,380,670 was issued in July of 1945. Nelson and the four investors were each listed as 1/5 assignees. The group marketed the combination through their new company, "Chicago Fishing Equipment".

While the ads revolved mostly around the reel portion of the combo, it depended on a 5' solid

THE REEL WITH
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You'll like the new light weight and perfect balance. Level-winding, of course, and equipped with universal chuck adaptable to rod tips of varying sizes. Get yours now. At better tackle shops. If your dealer cannot supply you, send us his name.

Write For Free Folder

CHICAGO FISHING EQUIPMENT COMPANY
5803 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago 51



Above is the top view and below is the underside.



steel shaft to send the lure to the waiting fish. The shaft was inserted into an elongated chuck on the handle that was heavily scored to provide a firm grip. The line passed through a level wind, and then through a set of rollers. The roller tension could be adjusted with a knob below the reel. With this mechanism, the company claimed "No Thumbing" and "No Backlash".

The reel portion of the new rod-reel combination eventually ran into problems during heavy use. Fishermen were unable to bring in big fish, as the reel jammed with a heavy load. The investors lost a large portion of their investments.

If they could have held onto the Streamliners until now, they could have turned a profit. With an original price of \$38.50, the interesting-looking combinations, in nice shape, now have collector values in the range of \$125-\$150. I found one winning bid on eBay for \$255. 🐟

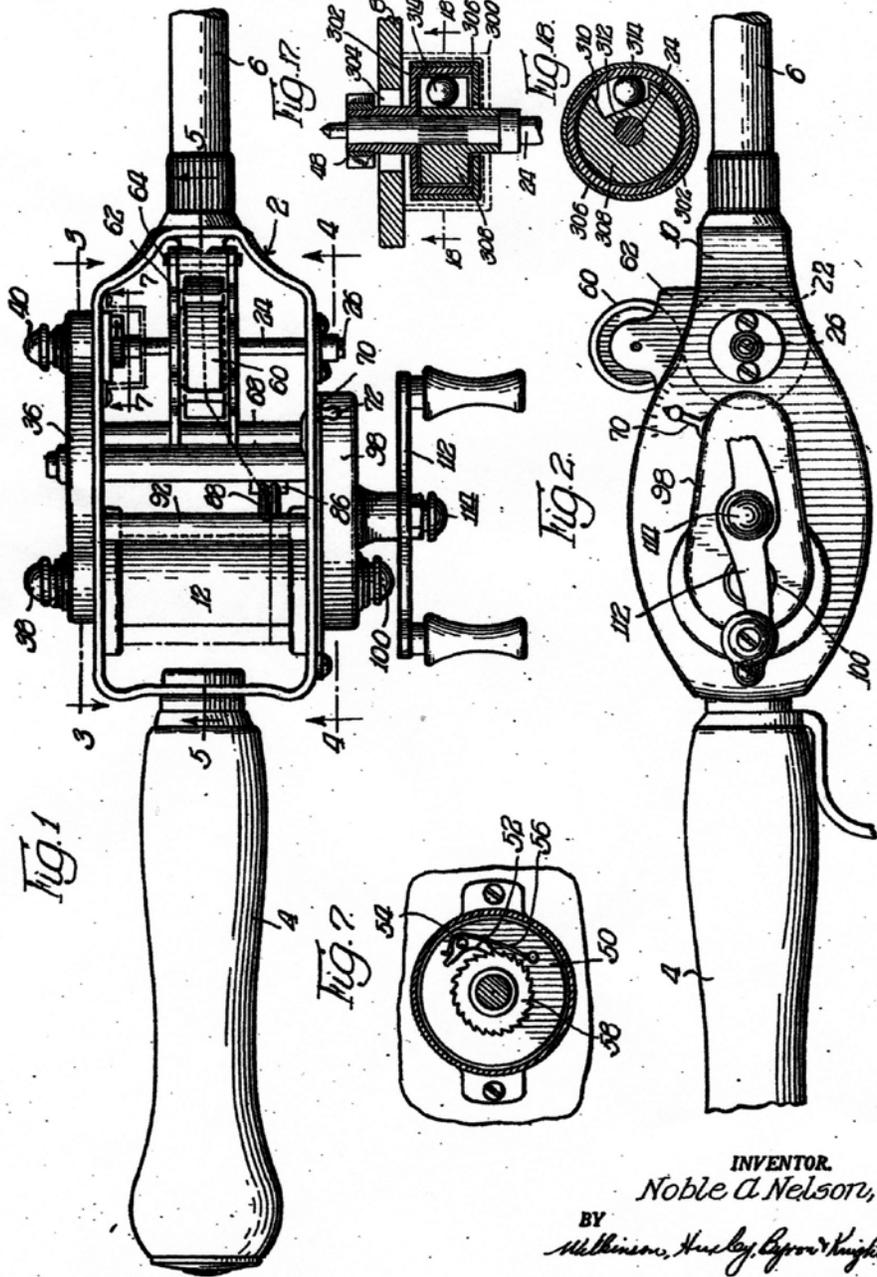
July 31, 1945.

N. A. NELSON
FISHING REEL

2,380,670

Filed Aug. 23, 1943

5 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Noble A. Nelson,
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attys.

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F A T C A D R A T E S	Classified "Tackle box" ads	\$3.50 1x	\$10.00 3x	E F F E C T I V E 2 0 1 1
	Business Card ads (black & white)	10.00 1x	29.00 3x	
	1/4 page black & white ads	50.00 1x	120.00 3x	
	1/2 page black & white ads	90.00 1x	215.00 3x	
	Full page black & white ads	160.00 1x	380.00 3x	
	1/2 page color horizontal	200.00 1x	450.00 3x	
	Outside back cover – color (horizontal only)	275.00 1x	619.00 3x	
	1/2 page color (Contents page only – vertical)	300.00 1x	679.00 3x	
	Full page color (except covers or center)	375.00 1x	900.00 3x	
	Inside front or back cover	525.00 1x	1,179.00 3x	
	Single center page	450.00 1x	1,019.00 3x	
Centerfold (No vertical center gutter)	850.00 1x	1,919.00 3x		

Florida Antique Tackle Collectors, Inc.

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR ANGLING HERITAGE

Florida Antique Tackle Collectors, Inc. (FATC) is a non-profit, educational corporation, incorporated in the State of Florida. The purpose of FATC is educational through the collection and distribution of historical and technical data regarding fishing equipment, its development, its inventors and manufacturers from the earliest times through the present day, and to assist other groups and individuals having a similar purpose. In order to enhance the knowledge of these subjects, the collection and preservation of examples of fishing tackle is to be encouraged for the benefit of present and future generations.

FATC was founded in 1987. The founders felt that a state-wide organization would provide additional opportunities for residents of Florida and others to learn more about the history of angling in Florida and elsewhere. FATC sponsors four exhibitions, open to the public, annually at different Florida locations. At the exhibitions members display their

collections, interact with the public, and engage in other activities in keeping with the purpose of FATC. FATC publishes a newsletter tri-annually, and an annual membership directory. FATC is not affiliated in any way with the National Fishing Lure Collector's Club (NFLCC) or the Old Reel Collectors Association, Inc., (ORCA) but encourages FATC members to support those organizations.

FATC annual membership dues are: \$35 domestic, \$40 Canada, \$45 Foreign or \$700 (Domestic) Life Membership, \$800 (Canada) Life Membership, and \$900 (Foreign) Life Membership (20x annual dues). Please direct membership inquiries or applications (with your dues) to the FATC Secretary listed below. For membership applications visit our web site at: www.fatc.net

One time ads will be given a 3% discount for prepayment.



June 12, 13, 14, 2015
St. Augustine Beach Show
Fri. 8am-6pm Sat. 8am-6pm Sun. 8am-12pm

SHOW LOCATION: Holiday Isle Oceanfront Resort
860 A1A Beach Blvd. St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

ACCOMMODATIONS: Holiday Isle Oceanfront Resort
(904) 471-2555 www.holidayisleoceanfront.com Room rates: \$112.00 per night,
booked by May 11, 2015 to receive the F.A.T.C. rate.

TABLE AND REGISTRATION: Registration, \$15.00 per member. 8ft. tables, \$35.00
each, wall or aisle. Membership dues must be current to register.

REGISTRATION FORM AND SHOW HOST INFORMATION:

Please make checks payable to F.A.T.C. and send to show host, or pay and register on
line at www.fatc.net

Mike Hall
2435 Ironwood Dr.
Jacksonville, FL. 32216
(904) 424-7071
e-mail: flalake@aol.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # and E-Mail _____

Guests Name(s) _____

Registration _____ **at \$ 15.00 each for a total of :** _____

I would like _____ **Tables 8' at \$ 35.00 Each for a total of** _____

Please Specify Wall or Aisle tables _____ **Total Enclosed** _____

Payment must accompany registration – Refunds for cancellations must be requested 30 days in advance. Any cancellations after 30 days will not be refunded. You must be an FATC member to exhibit, trade or buy at the auction. Membership renewal at the show will involve waiting in two lines so pay your membership dues now! In an effort to give the public a better show, we are asking anyone with tables to wait until after 4PM on Saturday to break down. Emergency exceptions will be made only by the show host. If you chose to break down early, you may not get a table next year.

Down to the wire!

The 1933 Leesburg National Bass Tournament

Rick Osterholt

You can't beat Shick!

That was most likely the thought of a lot of the contestants in the annual Leesburg, Florida National Bass Tournament of 1933. J.B. Schick was the dominant player in the early years of the event, and had captured the event's largest fish up to that time. However in 1933, things would change.

In that year, some of the rules changed from previous tournaments. Now, Florida residents could participate in certain categories and win prizes as well.

The tournament lasted 2 months, from January 15th through March 13th.

Contestants could fish as much as they liked, but were contained to the lakes that resided in Leesburg—Harris, Griffin, and Silver Lake. Charles Abele was a longtime Leesburg-wintering resident, and did most of the promotion for the tournament. Mr. Abele got the nation's attention, pulling the best anglers from all over the Northeast and Midwest. J.B. Schick, from LaPorte, Indiana was one of the "big name" fishermen. Schick had caught the largest bass in the in the history of the tournament, a 12 pound 8 ounce gorilla, in 1928. Schick competed every year and was well known amongst all the anglers competing.

The grand prize for the tournament was the envy of all the participants and local enthusiasts.....the famous "Silver Cup". Schick had his

cup, and another noteworthy angler named T.H. Farmer from Martin Tennessee, was hungry for his. Farmer had fished all 5 of the events since the tournament's inception in 1928, and had come within 6 ounces in 1932 when he was edged out by George Miller on the last day.

Farmer was determined this year, and he fished 14 hours a day 6 days a week, taking off only on Sundays. He had a respectable 9 pounder, but nowhere near the 12 pound 2 ounce fish that was in the lead. In fact, the lead was shared by two gentlemen, P.B. Alsobrook and L.P. Fussell, both from Florida. On the day before the tournament was to close, the Leesburg Commercial read:

exceptionally high standard of food and service is maintained at all times in the large dining room of the hotel. The spacious lobby is well furnished and comfortable and many a friendly game of cards is enjoyed there by congenial guests.

BECAUSE of its central location on the main highways of the state, Leesburg enjoys a long tourist season. The Magnolia Hotel has become a favorite stopping



The smile and the joy of a real victory over a large bass

place, not only for those spending the winter in this section, but for those en route to or from more southern resorts, who enjoy breaking their journey and spending part of their winter holiday in the Central Lake Region.

THE FISHING attracts many, particularly during the period of the Annual National Fresh Water Bass Tournament, staged in Leesburg since 1927. Valuable prizes and trophies are offered to fishermen entering the largest bass during the contest. Many fine specimens weighing from twelve to fourteen pounds have been entered in the various Tournaments. This year's contest will open December 15th and close February 15th.

THE CITY OF LEESBURG lies half-way between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, on high, rolling land. Leading in every direction are excellent paved highways, bordered by citrus groves and productive farming land, and affording many beautiful sight-seeing trips. State Highway No. 2, known as the "Main Street of Florida," leads direct to Leesburg. The Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line railways and Florida Motor Lines, Inc., bus service afford good connections with any point.

AN ADDITIONAL attraction to the city, now nearing completion, is the Venetian Gardens, an eighty acre park of landscaped islands on the shore of Lake Harris, separated by canals which are crossed by ornamental bridges. Tropical flowers, shrubs and trees, illuminated fountain and pools, are transforming former waste land into a place of beauty. Tennis courts, roque, shuffleboard and other amusement equipment, besides a swimming pool, athletic field for baseball and other games, form part of this \$200,000 WPA financed project. For the golf devotees, there are two sporty greens in close proximity to Leesburg.

A great victory over a fighting twelve pound bass



Friday, January 29, 1937

National Fresh Water
BASS TOURNAMENT



Registrations must be made before fish are caught, at one of the authorized registration places.
Entries must be made same day of catch. The same fish may not be entered in more than one class although an unlimited number of entries may be made.

CLASSIFICATIONS

A Largest bass taken on live bait	(open to all)
B Largest bass casting artificial bait	(non-residents)
C Largest bass taken trolling	(non-residents)
D Largest bass taken any lake in Lake County, Artificial or live bait	(open to all)
E Largest bass taken by a lady	(ladies)
F Largest pickerel taken	(non-residents)
G Largest catfish taken	(open to all)
H Largest perch taken	(non-residents)

CLOSES FEBRUARY 15th

This Space
Courtesy of




First National Bank

“Tournament This Year a Walkover, It Seems, for Natives”

Most believed that headline to be correct, since no one had come within 2 pounds of the two Floridians in the lead. Farmer was more determined than ever on that final day. He was at his boathouse at 5 AM and was ready to give it one more try. But..... as fate would have it, his outboard would not start..... He called the local outboard mechanic, finally got the motor started at 10:30, and was off to give it his best shot.

Farmer did the impossible that afternoon. He came to the fire department scales with a behemoth fish of 12 pounds 15 ounces, eclipsing Shick’s record, and taking the Silver Cup!

T. H. Farmer indeed proved that, when stricken with adversity and under pressure, all you can control is the lure on your line.....and with patience and determination you will win out in the end! 




Capt. David R. Besser
Vintage Fly Tackle Collector

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



St. Augustine Beach Show

June 12 - 14, 2015 - St. Augustine Beach, FL
Holiday Isle Oceanfront Resort
1-904-471-2555

Nokomis/Osprey Fall Show

October 9 - 11, 2015 - Tamiami, FL
Bentley's Hotel
1-941-966-2121



2015 FATC Club Lure

2015 FATC Club Patch