

FATC NEWS

FLORIDA ANTIQUE TACKLE COLLECTORS NEWSLETTER



"SAVANNAH SOUTHERN CLASSIC" 2022



PFLUEGERS STAR & MONOGRAM BAIT



AGGRAVATIN POPPER



PLASTIC WORMS OF FLORIDA



SAVANNAH SOUTHERN CLASSIC 2022





FATC NEWS
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTIQUE TACKLE COLLECTORS INC.
 Summer 2022 Volume 36 No. 2

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 LURES, LURE BOXES, or PAPERWORK

Joe Yates
 Email: setayj@gmail.com Phone: (704) 364-4898

Cover:
 Scenes from Savannah. The hotel decorated their fountain in the main lobby for us, with no help from the club’s!



Presents its 1st Annual

Florida International Antique Tackle Show

February 24, 25, 26

At World Golf Village — St. Augustine, Florida



Come join us for the first-ever Florida International Antique Tackle Show Hosted by the Florida Antique Tackle Collectors and Renaissance Hotel, Resort & Conference Center at beautiful World Golf Village

Special room rates are \$140 nightly, which include many amenities with quick access to golf, fishing, area beaches and historic downtown St. Augustine. Quality dining is available on the premises as well, including World Famous Caddyshack Bar & Grill.

Join collectors from around the world for The Largest Vintage Tackle Show in the South. Hundreds of tables of quality tackle in a beautiful setting, plus our Saturday Night Auction.

For hotel reservations call 800-468-3571 and mention "Florida International Antique Tackle Show" or go to www.fatc.net under "Upcoming Shows" and use the provided link to book online. Be sure to enter the specified member code and book by February 10th to secure the discounted rate.

Registration is \$15. Tables are \$40 each, limit of six per exhibitor. Membership is \$35.

To register, go to www.FATC.net or contact show hosts

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ed Bauries

Happy New Year Everyone !!

Lets start with some “Bad” news and “Great” news.... The bad news is as you are aware that the Daytona show was cancelled due to reasons beyond our control. The great news is that the show must go on!

The Florida International will be held February 24th through the 26th at the World Golf Village Renaissance in St-Augustine. This is a very nice hotel with a beautiful on-site ballroom. This is a Saturday/Sunday with Setup on Friday.



Please make your hotel reservations by February 10th to be sure that you get the special rate of \$140 .00 per night. Organizing this show in a short period of time was not an easy task. Please be sure to thank; Jeff Windisman, Bernie Schultz, Chris Smith and Larry Lucas when you see them. This could not have been done without their tenacious efforts.

With that being said...the FATC does not run on cruise control. There is a lot of work and effort that takes place behind the scenes. Many of the officers and board members have been serving the club for many, many years. Thank you for all that you do.

I ask that our members consider taking a more active role in serving the club that we all love and enjoy. This could be anything from an idea that would better our club to becoming an officer or board member. Consider this hosting a show... there are many ways that we can all improve upon our already great club, that we call the FATC. The rising cost of the times are making us become more creative, I know that our members have great ideas, bring them! It’s time to be heard!

I look forward to seeing you all in St-Augustine next month. May this year be filled with happiness, good health and prosperity for all!

Tom Wilkerson
Collector & Preserver
of Antique Fishing Tackle

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EDITOR NOTES

Jeff Windisman

We had an excellent show with our neighbors the Carolina Antique Tackle Collectors in Savannah, GA back in November. The Hotel was very accommodating to us and everyone had a great time. Thanks to Bernie Schultz and Steve Herzog for the good job and looking forward to the next "Southern Classic" in 23.

With everything that's happen in the last year we were afraid we weren't going to have any shows till the end of the year, but as Ed Bauries stated, we have some "Great" News. We can look forward to the Florida International in St-Augustine on February 24 - 26, 2023. In this news letter we have the show form ready for you to fill out and all information about the show. See you there!

In this issue, we have a interesting story on the Pflueger Monogram Bait by Dale Van De Voort an early bait with some stamping you just don't see. I put together a story on the plastic worm produce here in Florida and the first one is on Jim Bagley Bait Company. Joe Yates gave us another interesting story on Zeno Bass and his "Aggravatin Popper". Joe also gives us another Unknown Maker.

The Dalton Man

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Grace Chlastawa

With the Florida International just around the corner, I'd like to make a plea to our membership to get their dues paid as soon as possible. Biggest reason being, we want everyone to be paid up before the show coming up to help not be overloaded at the registration desk, with filling out membership forms. Dues are due on March 1, each year so we are close to this anyway. Thanks for your consideration.



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MISSING

An Article by YOU
PLEASE CONTRIBUTE

NOTE: Of all of the nice displays that we see at the shows and of all of the information that is in the your heads - we all have a lot we can share.



UNKNOWN FLORIDA MAKER "SQUIGGLY LURE"

by Joe Yates

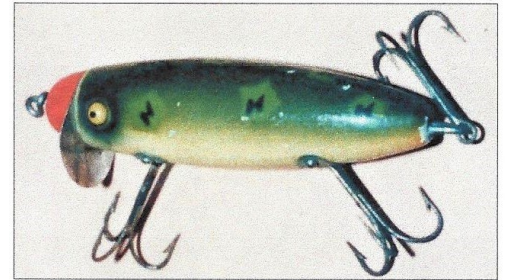
Countless lure makers have made their own variations of Zaragossa style baits since the original was introduced by Heddon over one hundred years ago. One such variation is the unknown squiggly lure shown here .



The wooden lure has been found in several sizes and colors. All are decorated with squiggly markings that resemble the letter "S" or "Z". The lures have a nose line tie and a single belly hook attached by a simply screw eye with no protective cup.

At least one of the lures pictured was found in Florida, but there is no evidence that any of them were manufactured in the Sunshine State.

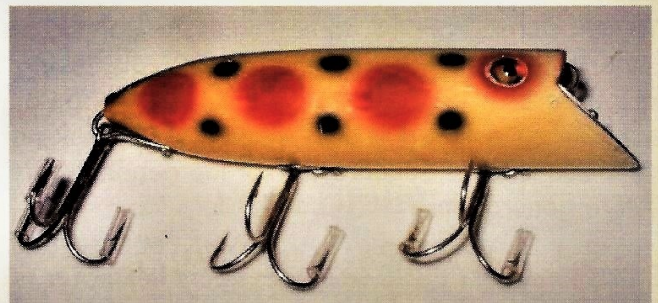
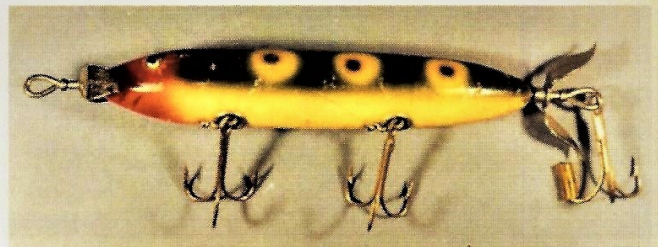
Some have speculated that the lures could have been made by T.H. Clay in Thomasville, Georgia. The Vann-Clay Read Head lure shown here has squiggly markings that are quite similar to the ones painted on the Zaragossa type baits.



Any help in identifying the maker of the Zaragossa style baits would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all who helped with my collection!

~Chuck



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Heddon

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PLASTIC WORM'S OF FLORIDA

By Jeff Windisman

With all the different types of fishing baits made from metal to wood that have been developed by fishermen beginning in the late 1800s, one of the most ingenious baits to be invented was the plastic worm. The worm lure came to the forefront in the 1950s when Nick Crème started producing his Crème worm in his kitchen in Ohio and has been hailed as the inventor of this bait. But Bill Norton also produced worms under the "Sportsman Products" of Marion, Indiana and Bill & Ruth Norton even hold a patent for the plastic worm. It really doesn't matter who invented the plastic worm, what it did was give the weekend fisherman an easier way to catch fish. With the plastic worm added to the fisherman's arsenal it balloon through the years in different configuration from, lead headed jigs with a worm on the tail to monster 10 to 12 inch worms and small worm tails for catching Speckled Perch [Crappie] to plastic shrimp tails for saltwater species. The plastic worm became universal in the weekend warriors pursuit of catching fish in either fresh or saltwater.

JIM BAGLEY BAIT COMPANY

Born in Safety Harbor, Florida on July 24, 1923 Jim Bagley and his parents moved to Bartow, Florida where he graduated from Summerlin Institute, [would become Bartow High School] in 1941. soon after graduation Jim joined the Air Corps and flew 51 missions as a Ball Turret Gunner during WWII.

We move forward to 1954, Jim was earning his living as master electrician and had the opportunity to get into the fishing tackle industry by purchasing a pork rind business making frogs and prey fish designs. By 1955 the business was beginning to show some profit and became successful, especially when he designed a pork rind eel, which became very popular. In this time period Jim was working his day job and at night was making his pork rind baits and with the success of his small company decided he would make his mark in the fishing tackle business.

Jim Bagley now working full time on his company made a trip to Chicago, Illinois for the AFTMA; "American Fishing Tackle Manufacturing Association". Here, Jim was introduced to the plastic worm and became enticed with the new product. With a few inquires, he was given a name, Bill Stenbridge who live in East Point, Georgia. Bill left the show and made a bee-line to this man's front door. Jim left the resident with a 5-gallon bucket of worm making product. Jim Bagley was now in the artificial worm making business and it didn't take him long for production of his new baits and get on the market.



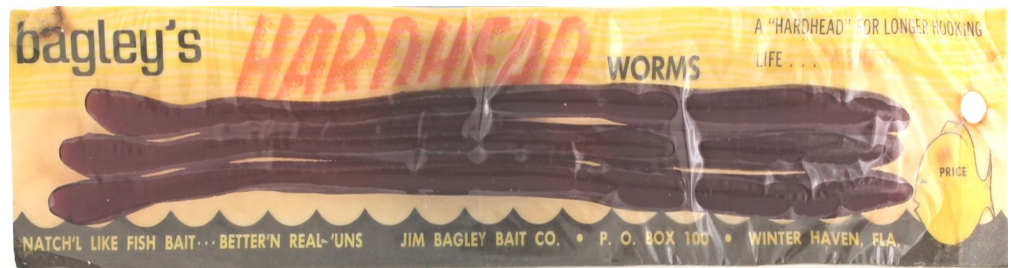
Above shows the first package use for his worms. Stated on his packaging, "Made By The Folks Who Make Bill's 13 Pork Rind". The pre-hooked baits were very popular in the beginning, not only with Bagley but with other makers such as Crème and Sportsman Products. Bagley package his worms in different numbers from the single to up five in a pack.

He even had a marketing plan where he sold a candy jar with his worms in them in a variety of his colors offered. Jim Bagley is attributed with making the first purple colored worm, which in his words was an accident. He states that he had mixed the wrong color and it turned purple. He didn't want to throw the batch away so he packaged them and it turned out to be a very popular color for him, with other companies following suit making the color. At right shows his floating worm in the first package in brown which was listed as "natural worm". Below left shows other sizes of his worm which would later be named "Hardhead" in his



later packaging, Jim's worms came in sizes from 5 inch to the "Ol' Monster" which was a 8 inch bait. Over the next

thirty years Jim Bagley made so many different types of baits, with other names such as Big Mother, Molly, Flat-Tail, Eger Beaver and Spring Tail to name a few. Below shows the second pack that Jim Bagley use and lasted till the end of production. In the package is his [mistake] 3-pak purple worms.



I have collected these worm packs and others over the years from all over the US and Canada. It's another avenue for the tackle collector and is enjoyable to collect. I have even used these worms as a young man wading around a lake, when I couldn't throw a Dalton. There is so many different companies that produced worms from the middle 1960s to the 1980s that it's a never ending endeavor, but a fun one!

Some of this information comes from the late Bill Stewart and his story on the Bagley Bait Company.



Above shows another company from near by Eloise, Florida selling Bagley worms

ZENO BASS AND THE AGGRAVATIN POPPER

by Joe Yates

Growing up with a name like “Bass” is almost like having a target on your back. Zeno Bass lived up to his name, proving not only that he could catch bass but also that he could make a tool to help others catch them.

Zeno Bass was born on November 15, 1894 in Valdosta, Georgia. He was the youngest of seven children of George Pearlman Bass and Mary Senterfeit Bass. George and both of his brothers served with the Confederate States Army during the Civil War.

Zeno Bass was living in Glen St. Mary, Florida in 1917 and working as a carpenter for W. M. Venting. Mr. Venting raised poultry in Baker County and was well known for his White Minorca chickens, which were frequent champions at the state fair. Bass registered for the draft that year. He was inducted into military service on May 25, 1918 and entrained for Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Georgia.

Bass was living in Jacksonville, Florida in 1920. He lived awhile in a house with his cousin and uncle and worked as a painter for a sign company and also as a driver.

Zeno Bass married Selma Flora Willis in Jacksonville on December 4, 1926. The couple lived on Glendale Drive and Bass worked as a salesman for Standard Oil Company. For years he drove an oil tank wagon and traveled to farms and businesses that used Standard Oil products. He became a supervisor for the company in the 1950s and continued working for standard Oil until he retired in the 1960s.



By 1930 Zeno and Selma were living at 619 W. 46th street in Jacksonville, Florida. They both like to fish and enjoyed the sport whenever time allowed. Zeno was an accomplished fly caster. He represented a team from Jacksonville competing in the 1949 Florida State Skish Championship. On that same team was Paul Mashburn Jr., whose father made the Sea Trout fishing lure in Daytona Beach, Florida. A competing team from St-Petersburg featured two national champions, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Williams. Even though Zeno Bass won no prize at the tournament, it was a great honor to qualify for the team and compete for the championship.

One of Zeno bass' favorite places to fish was the Harris Chain of Lakes. A fish camp called Eagles Nest opened on the west shore of Lake Griffen near Leesburg, Florida in 1933. It was one of a number of fish camps that held tournaments in the Lake Region Angler's League during the 1950s. Both Zeno and Selma competed regularly in the Eagle's Nest Camp contest.



This is a 1950 picture of the dock at eagles Nest and the channel leading into Lake Griffin.

Zeno was good friends with camp owner Jerry Garriott and the two fished together regularly. Both especially enjoyed fishing with light tackle.



Zeno Bass with two big ones caught Eagles Nest;

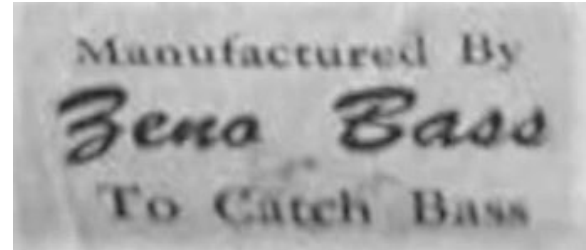
Some days on the water are better than others. Zeno Bass enjoyed a pretty good day in January 1951. He is seen in the photo on the left with a pair of big black bass he caught fishing out of Eagle’s Nest Camp. The photo comes from; *The Tampa Tribune* of January 15, 1951.

Zeno and Selma often fly fished together. One of their trips was mentioned in *The Tampa Bay Times* on September 29, 1953. “Zeno Bass and family got in some fly fishing Saturday afternoon and picked up 13 bass, some of them nice size”. Zeno and Selma did not have any children, so “family” was the two of them.

Zeno Bass is known to have made a popping lure for spin fishing or fly fishing. It was Called; The Aggravatin Popper. The cork body popper was equipped with a 1/0 size hook which was dressed with colorful feathers.



The Aggravatin Popper was packaged in a plastic top cardboard box. A unique number for every lure was hand-written on a card inside the box. The side panel of the box tells us that the lure was *Manufactured by Zeno Bass to Catch Fish*. It also shows the 619 W. 46th street address in Jacksonville, Florida where Zeno Bass lived.



The lure name is stenciled in gold on the box top.

We have no idea how many Aggravatin Popper lures Zeno Bass Made. We have only seen three boxes to date. One did not have a lure, but the card was numbered 32. As seen above, this one is number 49. the number on the card from another box was barely legible, but appeared to be either 60 or 80. The popper in that box was yellow with yellow feathers.

It would take a fairly keen eye to identify a Zeno Bass Aggravatin Popper that was not in a box. We think it is very reasonable to say that only a small number of lures was ever manufactured. A boxed Zeno Bass Aggravatin Popper has proven to be a rather rare find.

Zeno Bass was 85 years old when he passed away in Nassau, Florida on May 22, 1980. Selma Bass was 80 years old when she died in Jacksonville, Florida on May 28, 1984.

THE ALLURE OF LURES

by Barbara Gibson

I reached back into the archives and found this story about a new members wife talking about his addiction. A very good story on the club and I believe it works to this day!

My husband Bob, has been seduced. Seduced and mesmerized by old, brightly colored wood, plastic and cracked rubber objects that were originally created to fool unsuspecting fish.

I've looked very closely, but I've yet to find a single scale on his body. And he's still capable of breathing air, although he does seem to spend more time in the shower lately.

Not only does Bob lust after these strange objects, he's even allowed them to invade our home. They hang on the walls like dead minnows, carefully displayed under glass, and stare at me with beady little eyes as I vacuum and dust. They peer over my shoulder when I do the bookwork for our concrete pumping business. They even invaded the sanctity of our bedroom, where newly acquired ones lay scattered atop our dresser, and stacks of books about them fill the bookcase and Bob's bedside table.

Yes, I've lost my husband to the allure of antique lure. But I'm not one to give up without a fight and so I accompanied Bob to my first Florida Antique Tackle Collectors show last December.

I was sure the beautiful, beach-front accommodations, the luxury of breakfasts served in our room, and the wonderfully romantic evenings were all carefully calculated to lower my resistance. My defenses were up.

What I wasn't prepared for was the warm friendliness and camaraderie of this wonderful group of people who share a fascination for the history of an age-old sport and a love for the artifacts which bring that history alive for them.

And, although I still haven't acquired my husband's devotion to the little buggers, I have learned the importance of preserving this part of our heritage.

I've just returned from our motel room in Vero beach after spending a delightful evening dining amid rods, reels, and of course, lures of all imaginable shapes and designs. It's my second FATC show and I certainly hope it won't be my last.

I no longer fear my husband will develop gills and start to crave worms and shiners. Or that I've lost him to those colorful bits of wood, plastic and cracked rubber. I've learned respect for the allure of lures.

PFLUEGER “STAR” & “MONOGRAM” BAIT

By Dale Van De Voort

As my fellow collectors know, I have been a passionate Enterprise Manufacturing Company [Pflueger] collector for many more years than I want to acknowledge. I have owned almost every bait that Pflueger produce at one time or another, but my most treasured collection are my Pflueger metal baits. These baits were being produced as early as 1883 and in the first catalog of 1885 offered eleven baits in total with seven entries being metal, remaining lures were rubber, glass and a cork. Pflueger made over 110 different metal lures from the beginning to 1930, from egg, heart, oval, kidney, round, teardrop in the inline design, these blades would also come in the “Fancy” stamped blades.

When you think that you have seen every stamping on their baits there’s always something else that comes along. Hence the story here. We’ll start with the “Star Bait” with its folded ridge design on the lower part of the blade and stamped with a star. First cataloged in 1900 and produced till 1912, even with their twelve year run these Star Baits are a difficult bait to find. The Star Bait was the second bait to have a design stamping on their blades, besides the “Fancy” stamped blades, with the first being the “Crescent Bait” made from 1895 till 1916 and used the heart shaped blade. The Star Baits were made in nine different sizes, #1 to #6, with #6 being the smallest and 1/0, 2/0 and 3/0 larger sizes.

Three came with Pflueger’s patented luminous coating on the concave side of the blade and came in three different patterns; nickel upper/copper or gold on lower part of the blade and one with all nickel. Three others were non-luminous but came with red paint on the concave side and these six were Pflueger’s “Premium Quality” lures. The last three were, “Favorite Quality” and came with red paint on concave side with the same patterns as above, but with supposedly lower quality hardware. All came with the slanted “Pflueger Trademark” stamping on the upper part of the blade. [Note] *W. T. J. Lowe of Buffalo, NY was the first*

to make the Star Bait, his company started producing baits in 1883. Pflueger obtain rights to produce their version of the Star Bait and others from W.T. Lowe

in this time periods. In 1915 W.T. J. Lowe passed away and Pflueger acquire all Trademark designs of Lowe’s baits. But only to sell in the US, Croft & Sons Co. of Toronto had rights for Canada.

After 1912 as stated, the Star Baits were discontinued. In 1913, the “Monogram Bait” replaced the Star [left] using the same blade design. But these baits did not have any stamping of any kind on the lower part of the blade and were stamped with the slanted “Pflueger Trademark” on the upper part of blade. Well in 1912 Pflueger started using another of their trademarks, the “Bulldog”.



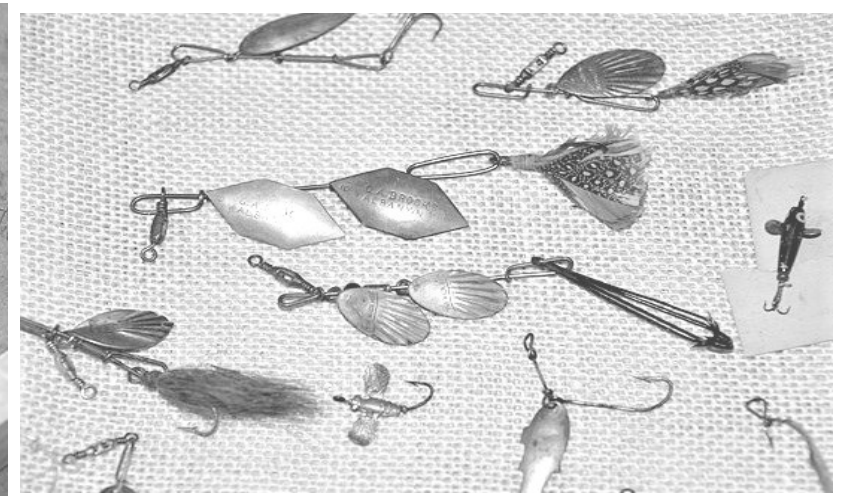
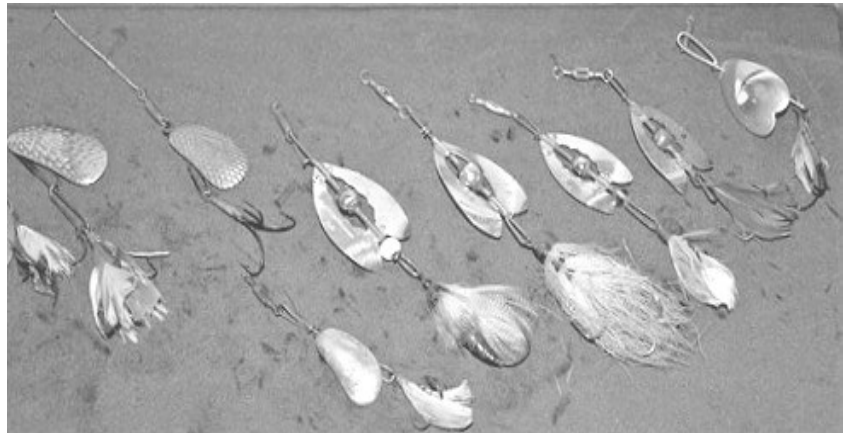
Pflueger used this Trademark on almost every thing they produced starting in 1912, but also used the "Pflueger" trademark throughout their history. Every Monogram Bait seen had no stamping on the lower half of the blade, till now! At right shows a size 2 with the Bulldog Trademark on the lower half and no other stamping on the upper half of the blade, not even a size number, this is very unusual. The Stamping also has the name Monogram under the Bulldog. The Monogram made only four models and used the same catalog number #300 as the Star Bait. #301 for the Monogram was the only one with luminous on the concave side and came in nickel upper/ gold lower. #304 was the same as #301 except came with red paint on the concave side #307 had a nickel upper/copper lower with nickel on concave side. #309 was a 2nd quality in nickel upper/gold lower and red paint on concave side. In the 1916 catalog #301 & #304 were now "Pflueger Brand" and #307 & #309 were "Fourbrothers" brand. Sizes did not change from the beginning in 1913; sizes 6 to 1 and 1/0, 2/0 and 3/0. In 1927 Pflueger only offered the model #309 in all sizes and adding two other sizes; 4 1/2 & 2 1/2 and now were stamped with the Trademark - "Diamond P" stamping, these also didn't have any stamping on the upper part of the blade, but a few that have been seen do have the size stamped at the top. The Monogram Bait stayed in catalogs till 1938.



Shows Bulldog stamping on lower Monogram Bait with no stamping on the upper half of blade

Information obtain from "The Pflueger Book" and catalogs.

METAL FROM SAVANNAH



SAVANNAH SOUTHERN CLASSIC 2022



Left, CATC & FATC members ready for the auction.



Right, shows tackle ready to be auctioned.



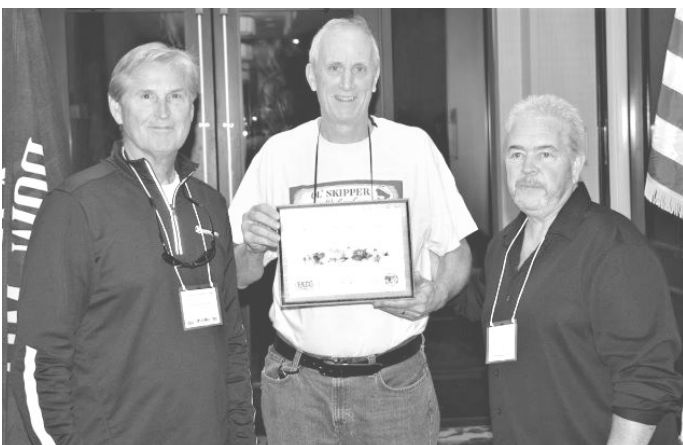
BEST OF SHOW DISPLAY WINNER;
Wayne Edens, for his early Heddon lures.



BEST PRE-WAR DISPLAY;
Conrad Scarry, for his
Pre-War Heddon's



BEST POST-WAR DISPLAY;
Harry Matthews, for his
Ol' Skipper collection



A big thanks goes out to our show hosts;
Bernie Schultz and Steve Herzog.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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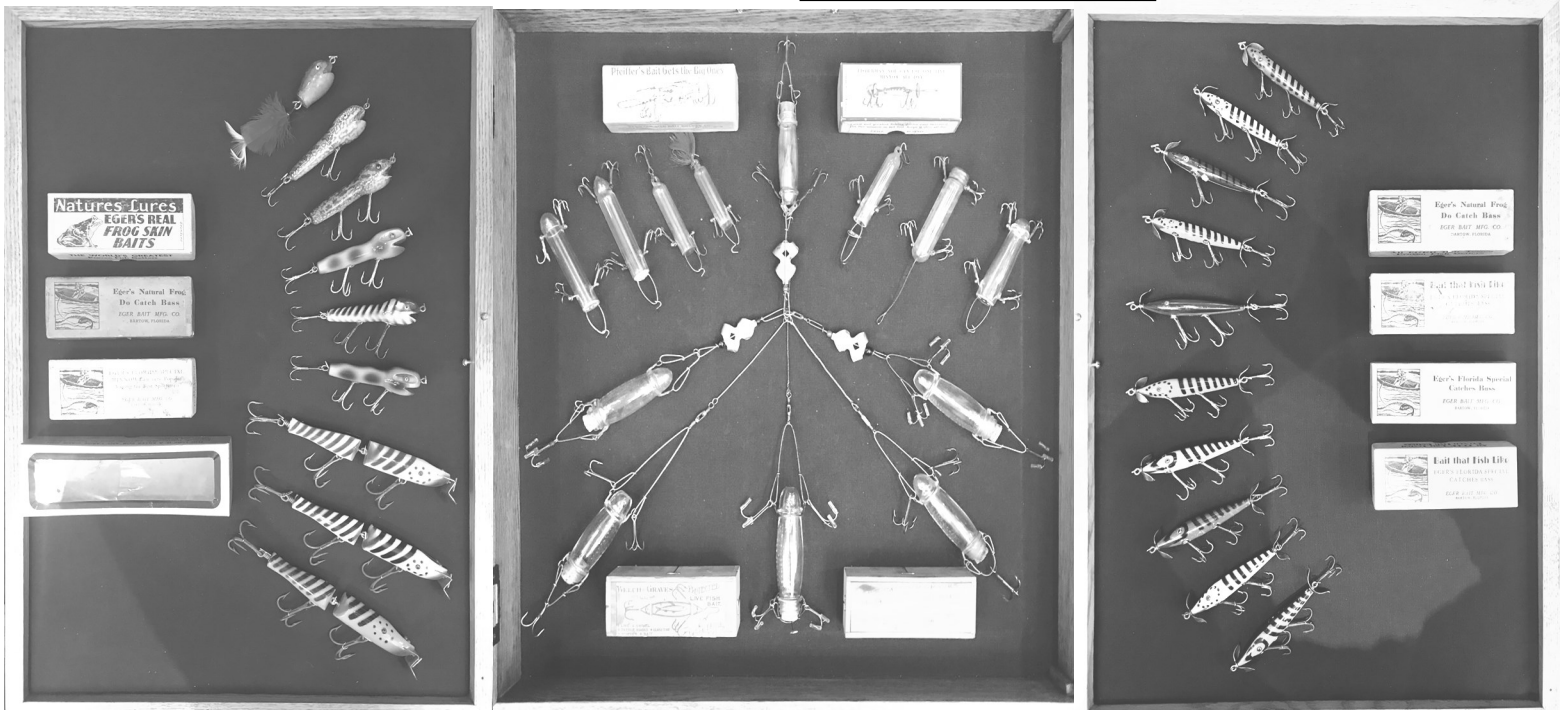
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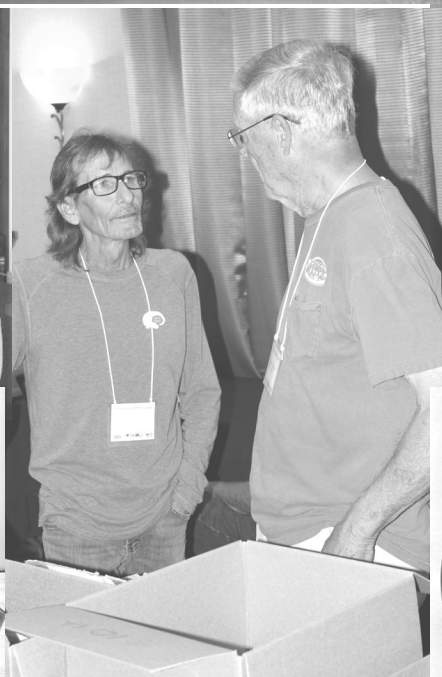
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SAVANNAH SOUTHERN CLASSIC 2022



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“FATC AD RATES” EFFECTIVE 2020

Classified “Tackle Box” Ads {Black & White}	\$3.50	1x	\$10.00	3x
Classified “Tackle Box” Ads {Color}	\$5.00	1x	\$12.50	3x
Business Card Ads {Black & White}	\$10.00	1x	\$29.00	3x
Business Card Ads {Color}	\$15.00	1x	\$40.00	3x
1/4 Page Ads {Black & White}	\$50.00	1x	\$120.00	3x
1/4 Page Ads {Color}	\$75.00	1x	\$200.00	3x
1/2 Page Ads {Black & White} “Horizontal”	\$200.00	1x	\$450.00	3x
1/2 Page Ads {Color} “Horizontal”	\$300.00	1x	\$679.00	3x
1/2 Page Ads {Black & White} “Vertical”	\$160.00	1x	\$380.00	3x

FLORIDA ANTIQUE TACKLE COLLECTORS INC.
 A NOT-FOR PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEDICATED
 TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR ANGLING HERITAGE

Florida Antique Tackle Collectors Inc. [FATC] is a not-for-profit educational corporation in the state of Florida. The Purpose of the 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 present day and to assist other groups and individuals having a similar purpose. In order 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 statewide organization would provide additional opportunities for residents of Florida and others to learn about history of angling in Florida and elsewhere. FATC sponsors three exhibitions, open to the public, annually at different locations. At the exhibition members display their collections, interact with the public and engage in other activities in keeping with the purpose of the FATC. The FATC publishes a newsletter tri-annually and annual membership directory. FATC is not affiliated in any way with the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club [NFLCC] or the Old reel Collectors Association Inc. [ORCA], but encourage FATC members to support those organizations.

FATC annual membership dues are \$35 Domestic, \$40 Canada, \$45 Foreign or \$700 Life Membership [Domestic], \$800 Life Membership [Canada], \$900 Life Membership [Foreign] 20x Annual dues. Please direct membership inquiries or applications [with your dues] to the FATC Treasurer listed above. For membership applications, visit our Website at: www.fatc.net



2022 FATC CLUB PATCH

2023 FATC CLUB PATCH



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUE TACKLE SHOW

FEBRUARY 24th & 25 2023

World Golf Renaissance St-Augustine, Florida

Show Host; Larry Lucas theporterguy1@gmail.com

Chris Smith chris@southernbreezeof.com

[June show to be announce]

CRYSTAL RIVER SHOW

September 14th 17th 2023

At Plantation on Crystal River

Show Host: Tom Wilkerson

oldstufflures@gmail.com