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DOC'S MENHADEN MINNOW AND THE SILVER DOLLAR LURE

By D. J. Brace, 1990



Editors note: This article by Doug Brace originally appeared in a 1990 issue of Fishing Collectibles Magazine. FATC News gratefully acknowledges FCM editor/publisher Brian J. McGrath's permission (along with Mr. Brace's approval) to reprint the article in its entirety, with additional photos and articles added from Mr. Brace's collection.

"Doc," was William
D. Gardiner (Doctor of
Osteopathy), born December
17, 1896 in Chandler, Florida.

He received his medical education in Illinois, and in 1922 began a medical practice in Sanford, Florida. In addition to the Gardiner's home, at 421 Magnolia Avenue, being a place of business for Doc's medical practice, the garage and shaded arbor at the rear of the two-story house became the work area for his lure creations. His first attempts at an artificial bait dealt with an egg shaped wood sunfish, about two inches long and ¼ inch thick. The lure was drilled to accommodate a thru-body wire tie, which secured a single treble hook located at the tail. Shaped like a "T," the unique morticed tail was turned downward to give it action.

Doc believed a lure had to be light in color to be used in the dark fresh waters of Florida and painted each of these "Sunfish" a pale green. The large painted eyes, out of proportion with the rest of the body, consisted of a dark outer ring with a white center. The eyes were created by dabbing paint on the lure body with a special tool he made. It was said that with exaggerated eyes, "The lure now resembled a goldfish."

Unfortunately, these baits would not perform in the manner he wanted; specifically, stay down deep without spinning or turning sideways. Attempts were made to add weighted wire leaders, but this caused the bait to spin; also, leaders would rust. Doc liked to fish the deep holes in the lakes; he felt that's where the big ones were.

Not satisfied with wood, it was inevitable that he would resort to a metal lure. In the beginning, he experimented with eight to ten different sizes. Some, like his three inch "Needlefish," were long and slender but wouldn't pull straight. Others had various sized pot bellies. All of these early metal baits came

from his own molds. The shape he finally chose to pursue, was that of the "Menhaden Minnow." Menhaden, a salt water bait fish, entered the St. John's River at Jacksonville and migrated south to spawn in Poinsett Lake and Lake Hell `n Blazes. Numerous menhaden would fall victim to hungry bass along the way.

Doc's concept of a fishing lure in the shape of a menhaden was not new to the Sanford area. In the early 1930's, "Hop" Williams had designed a similar lure. Williams was an outboard motor repairman who had his business at Hill

Hardware in Sanford. He was his own employer, free to take up his love of fishing whenever he chose. If the bass were "schooling," motor repairs had to wait!

Williams fashioned his first menhaden lure from three inch collars of Monel (a trademarked corrosion resistant alloy of nickel and copper). However, the required filing and shaping of the fork-tailed baits proved too time consuming. He then sought the services of Werts Jewelers in Sanford. It was here that Werts made a mold of the "Hop" Williams lure. To achieve a bright finish, silver dollars were melted down and cast into the shape of a menhaden! With a treble hook attached at the tail. Williams sold these "silver dollar" lures at \$5.00 each; a hefty price for fishing lures in the 1930's, so one can only guess how many were sold.

Doc's version of the "Menhaden Minnow" can be traced back prior to World War II, with peak production coming years later. In 1950, Florida Pipe and Foundry opened for business in Haines City, Florida. It was here at the foundry, that Doc Gardiner was able to have one-hundred aluminum "Menhaden Minnow" blanks cast at one time. The foundry also had a device that tumbled the blanks over and over again, bringing them to a smooth finish. Back home, Doc would buff them to a bright luster. In his tackle box, he always kept a typewriter eraser to maintain that luster.

Although not intended as a commercial enterprise in the beginning, the demand for his lure grew. On June 23, 1952, Doc Gardiner registered his Sanford Metal Bait Co. with the Seminole County Courthouse. Doc produced at least three sizes of the Menhaden Minnow Motion Lure. His smaller version was still larger than the "Silver Dollar" Menhaden made years earlier by Williams. Doc's largest Menhaden measured 2 ¾ inches in length.





Typical use of a

"Doc's Menhaden"

with a trailing "Marm"

A former neighbor recalled "Doc's lures were advertised nationally in fishing journals and he shipped them all over the country." Packaging of "Doc's Menhaden" has seen two varieties of a two-piece cardboard box. In one version, possibly the earliest, the box top is labeled very simply "Doc's Menhaden." The other is a bit more sophisticated with the box top containing, in one corner, the illustration of a seated fisherman near the bow of his boat catching a bass, which is shown in the diagonal corner. Based on his artistic talents, it is quite likely the original art work for the box was Doc's. This box is labeled "Doc's Menhaden Minnow Motion Lure, Sanford Metal Bait Company, 421 Magnolia Avenue, Sanford, Florida."

A frequent fishing companion of Doc's was Chester Scott. Because of his connections with government surplus equipment, Scott became an asset to Doc's lure production. Scott furnished Doc with spools of rust free Monel wire. Using a vice and special jig, Doc would bend hundreds of the cut up pieces of wire in "S" shaped configurations. They were then used to attach a treble hook at the tail and also to provide a line tie through the existing hole in the head. The hole was purposely located at the top of the head to prevent spinning. Scott found the lure process very interesting and accompanied his friend, the Doctor, on several trips to the foundry. A visitor, seeing about fifty baits hanging from a wire above his workbench remarked, "Say Doc, is that some new kind of trot line you're working on?"

A place Doc favored to test his baits was off "Grassy Point," on nearby Lake Monroe. Here, for unknown reasons, the water ran

25-30 feet deep. After returning from one of his successful outings, a sports writer who saw Doc's catch wanted to write an article about him for a national magazine. On this same lake,

an angler received local publicity when he caught a three pound "Speck" on one of Doc's "Menhaden Minnows." An instruction paper found in its original box stated in part, the lure should be "worked fast near the surface." One popular method of fishing his lure was to attach a trailing "Marm" (a small bucktail lure), about twelve to eighteen inches from the Menhaden lure; frequently an angler would reel in two fish!

While the majority of Doc's "Menhaden Minnows" have a shiny, bare metal finish, others known to have been painted by Doc, reflect his artistic ability. Some have yellow bellies with a black back, finished in a scale pattern. These examples have been found with either a yellow or red ring around the eye. Less artistic painting patterns would seem to be the creativity of individual fishermen. Because of its quick drying nature and durability, Doc used automobile lacquer. It is also known his wife Madge helped him at times painting the lures.

East of Sanford was "Crowe's Fish Camp." Inherited from his father-in-law, Jim Crowe operated the fish camp from 1947-1975. Although Crowe knew Doc Gardiner, he was unaware Doc painted his lures. The "Menhaden Minnows" Crow sold at \$1.25 each, were unpainted and unboxed; he'd purchase about twenty-five at a time from Doc. Crowe stated, "Doc's Menhaden was a great lure, especially in the Spring during schooling season." Crowe also told of Sears approaching Doc to produce "Doc's Menhaden" for their chain of stores. However, agreement to terms between the two could not be reached. Another local retail outlet for Doc's product was



Seminole Sporting Goods, in Sanford. Production of "Doc's Menhaden," apparently begun before World War II, continued into the early 1960's until such time as the Gardiners moved away from Sanford. Within a few years of moving to Texarkana, near his wife's sister, Dr. William D. Gardiner died of lung cancer (March 31, 1965). His wife remained in the area until her death, several years later, on May 24, 1987.

Doc's paintings continue to hang in the homes of relatives. A few pieces of furniture he made were sold recently at an estate sale and the lures he made are still the treasured possessions of many a local fisherman.

Footnotes: The "Marms" referred to earlier in the text, were popularized by Orlando fisherman John Garey. In his sixties and retired from the military, Garey made a professional looking cork body lure that he used in conjunction with store bought top-water lures. His own technique was to tie as many as two "Marms" ahead of his top-water lure, giving the effect of a large fish in pursuit of small bait. Since this demanded a great deal of casting skill in order to keep the lures from becoming entangled, most anglers used his lure as a trailing bait.

Garey reasoned that since he was a "school-bass" fisherman, he would call his lure the "School Marm." In time, the lure became known as a "Marm."

Garey's "Marms" sold at various central Florida tackle shops, and were made in two sizes. The largest of Garey's bucktail lures was nearly one and a half inches in overall length. Complete with painted eyes, they were offered in all white and yellow bodies. Additionally, a black back and a brown back (both with painted aluminum bellies) were made. No longer available after the death of Garey, local fisherman began to carve their own versions.



An outstanding display of "Doc's Menhaden" lures, courtesy of Doug Brace.

Metal detector strikes history

A prototype of a famous lure is found outside the inventor's son's home in Sanford.

By JIM ROBISON
SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

SANFORD - Tim Green had hoped his metal detec-tor would find some old sil-ver coins in Sanford's historic residential district

Harry Wise was just re-turning to his East Sixth Street home from his favor-Street home from his favor-tic breakfast spot on San-ford Avenue when Green asked if he could search Wise's property.

That morning in mid-Ju-ly, Green, 42, of Titusville found a gold ring lost in 1967 by Wise's former wife.

His other find, though, has collectors lining up, and

has collectors lining up, and Green's discovery could re-write some local history. Green, an electrician at

Kennedy Space Center, fre-quently visits Sanford when looking for old coins to add to his collection. Settlement in Sanford dates back to the

mid-1800s and the region's first hub for steamboat com merce on the St. Johns River and railroad travel to the

"I find a lot of stuff," he said, including a recent catch — a 1914 reunion pen of the Jacksonville chapter the United Confederate Veterans.

Just from the sounds returned from his metal detec-tor, Green has a pretty good idea of what kind of metal is buried. On this day, he was looking for silver, but aluminum and lead register just about the same sound, he

That's the sound that came back from a half-foot below the foot-worn grass and 18 inches from the back steps off the kitchen of Wise's wood-frame home. Green dug down and pulled up a tarnished, 2%-inch

PLEASE SEE DETECTOR, K6

Sidebar To The Doc's Menhaden Story And The Lure's Origin

Doug Brace has provided a copy of the recent Orlando Sentinel article by Jim Robinson, which is described below:

On September 19th, 2004 the Orlando Sentinel featured an article by writer Jim Robinson dealing with the origin of the Doc's Menhaden lure. It begins with Mr. Tim Green of Titusville, Florida searching Mr. Harry Wise's property in Sanford, Florida's historic residential district, with his metal detector. Mr. Green found a "tarnished 2 1/2 inch piece of metal shaped like a minnow", and gave it to Mr. Wise. Mr. Wise was elated, and immediately recognized it as the work of his father, Mr. A. W. Wise. Apparently, A. W. was nicknamed "Doc" because he sold medicines door-to-door and by mail order from the drug store he had purchased.

Harry Wise submits that his father, who was a close friend (and fishing companion) with Dr. William D. Gardiner, originated the concept of the "Menhaden Minnow" in the late 1930s. and was in fact the inventor of the lure! A. W. Wise accidentally discovered his friend was also making the lures, and "Doc" Wise and "Doc" Gardiner's friendship terminated immediately!

Harry Wise believes Tim Green's find to be one of "Doc" Wise's prototypes. Writer Robinson interviewed Doug Brace, Bill Stuart, Ron Gast, and Ray Heffington of FATC for their views on the "Menhaden Minnow". Hop Williams' "Silver Dollar" and others were mentioned as early examples of metal lures fabricated to mimic Mother Nature's glorious little baitfish. Whether one accepts Harry Wise's assertion of his father's status as the inventor of the "Menhaden Minnow" or not, Jim Robinson's story offers a compelling argument in support of A. W. Wise, and at the very least, adds a layer of interest and mystique to this great Florida bait!



Friendship stopped over lure

DETECTOR PROMIKE

iece of metal shaped like a rhinnow — not a silver coin or some other treasure he had loped to uncover. He tossed it to Wise, whose

yes lighted up as if he were olding a 1903 Mergan Silver sollar from the Comstock Lode

Nevada Now, Harry Wise is a man inclined to theatries. It comes daturally. From youth to retirement, he took stages across the country as a magician and cir-dus ringmaster. Many in Cen-tral Florida remember him as Mr. Magic from one of Orlan-do's WDBO-Channel 6 televi-sion shows of the 1960s.

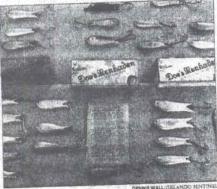
sion shows of the 1960s.

And he likes to tell stories.

This time, he was talking about little chunks of Jean, spen slugs of 22 bullets, that rained a 25-year friendship between fashing buddles.

The microwishand fish.

That minnow-shaped fishing lure Green dug up had been in the ground for about 60 years, back to the days when



This is Don Durham's collection of 'Doc's Menhaden Lures,' which he says were invented by A.W. Wise but were patented by a friend.

I that very sad day, My tamer, Auto-lenhaden." Dr. WD Gardiner produ

down 22 alugs to fashion into taking lures as gifts to friends and around Sanford

n and around sentore.

A.W. "Doc" Wise was some telescenter. He and his buddy."

Dr. William W.D." Gerdiner, a Sanford osteopath, were local legends. A front-page article in the Sanford Heruld on lune 12, 1839. \$30, reported that Doc Wise had landed a 7%-pound floun-der in Lake Harney, about 230 files up the St. Johns River from its habitat in the Atlantic

Those handmade lures were treasured by bass fishermen, who said schooling bass in the St. Johns jumped at them bechuse when they danced over the top of the water they looked just like shiny Menhaden

minnows.

A.W. Wise picked up his ruckname "Doc" from the days he sold medicines such as "Wise's 4-Day Foot Fix," which, for the price of 75 cents a bottle, was said to cure all sorts of tie, was said to cure all sorts of foot aliments. He went into the door-to-door and mail-order business by buying out a drug-sjore. He had had to change his line of work when Fiorida out-lawed fireworks in 1938.

Selling fireworks for the Rourth of July, Christmas and New Year's holidays had been smong his money makers when A.W. Wise ran indoor long-range shooting galleries in Sanford and Green Cove

rings. Harry Wise, bern in Sanford in 1934 as the only son of A.W. and Helen Wise, recalls that Navy boys came to the shooting galleries on the weekends, be-fore World War II, when the rallitary shut down the business to save brass, gunpowder and lead for the war effort.

Harry also remembers watching his father collect lead stugs from his shooting galleries and smelting the metal near the kitchen steps of their home. "That was the last place !

saw my dad working on those lures," Harry said. "That would have been in 1943 or 1944."

He carved his own wooden mold to pour the hot lead. Once it cooled, A.W. Wise used the edge of his pocketknife to smooth the edges and shine the netal. Whenever a lure tarnished, he just used his knife to shine it egain "and toss it in that river," Harry Wise said.

The recently discovered pro-totype shows knife scratches.



One day, A.W. Wise dropped by his fishing buddy's house at Fitth Street and Magnolia, discovering that Gardiner had machinery running aluminum copies of Wise's lure and packing them for sale in small boxes labeled "Doc's Menhaden-Minnow Motion Lurs." Gardinar had filed for a Lure." Gardiner had filed for a patent and started the Sanford Metal Bait Co. Most were shiny, but some were painted green or blue to look like

The doctor had never spo-ken to "Doc" about the busi-ness, never asked permission, never offered to share the prof-

"That ruined the best friendship in the world," Harry Wise said, adding that his father left without saying a word to Gardi-ner. "Their friendship ended

that sad day." Gardiner died after making the lures for a decade or so, and his family moved to Texas. Those aluminum lures have become collector's items.

Sanford insurance dealer Don E. Durham, a fishing tackle and lure collector, owns a few of the Sanford Metal Bait Co. lures as well as the handmade lead lures. He confirmed that Sanford's old-time fisher-men credit A.W. Wise as the

men credit A.W. Wise as the originator.
"Harry's dad is really the true inventor," Durham said.
"His fishing buddy took and ran with it. That's all its boils down to." down to

Durham is encouraging Harry Wise to make the lure available for auction. The story shind finding one of the Doc's Menhaden prototypes adds to its value, Durham said. Florida's old lures are very

Central Florida's sport fishing lakes made the region home to many of the state's early fishing gear companies, sald Ron Gast, an engineer living in Kissimmee and an officer in the Florida Antique Tackle

Antique lures, those made

before about the 1960s, can sell for as liftle as few dollars to \$3,000 each, depending on rari-ty and condition, said Cast, who runs a Web site with photos of collectible lures made by Florida-based compa-

Green of Titusville

Green used a metal detector to lossite

Harry Wise's ho

cfi.rr.com/rkgast/.
Bill Stuart Jr. and Doug Brace write in their book, Flori-Brace write in their book, Florida Line Makers and Their Lines, that Gardiner experimented with several types of iures in his shop, which also served as his artist's studio. Gardiner registered his lure company in Seminole County on June 23, 1952.

They add that others made, minow lures to try to catch schooling bass when the real menhadens were making their migration from salt water as Jacksonville to spawn at Poir-Jacksonville to spawn at Poir-Jacksonville to spawn at Poir-

Jacksonville to spawn ar Poin-sett Lake and Lake Hell 'n' Blazes. They mentioned San-ford outdoor motor repairman "Hop" Williams, who in the 1930s first made menhaden-shaped lures of a nickel and

copper alloy that proved too difficult to file and shape. A Sanford jeweler suggested, pouring melted metals into molds. Seeking something, bright and shiny. Williams melted down silver dollars. He sold his silver dollar lures for \$5 each. That was a lot in the Great Depression, and he didn't make very many. Today, a silver dollar lure is extremely

rare, Stuart and Brace write. Ray Heffington, founder of the Florida Annique Tackle Col-lectors annual auction in Day-tona Beach, said the signifi-cance of the discovered Wise lure, if it could be documented as one of the prototypes, would make it "very desirable" to avid collectors of Florida lures.

"They'd be champing at the bit for a chance to make bids." That might not happen. Said Harry Wise, "I'm nor

sure I want to auction it. I'd like

Am Robison tan be reached at Amerikan befler com.



The FATC News is the quarterly publication of the Florida Antique Tackle Collectors, Inc.

- President Ed Pritchard, 561-748-7508, reeltackle@aol.com
- Vice President Larry Lucas, 386-254-5179, porterman@cfl.rr.com
- Secretary Ron Gast, 2306 Leeward Cove, Kissimmee, FL 34746-3639, 407-933-7435, rkgast@cfl.rr.com
 - Treasurer Lloyd and Sally Jett, 850-442-9084, lsjett@aol.com
 - Directors Chuck Heddon, 407-862-7562; Ed Weston, 561-622-9282; Don Morrow 727-856-1534;
 Mark Sims, 954-565-3740; Warren (Doc) Gamble, 961-639-3924;

Frank Carter, 850-574-9718, fandl@comcast.net; John Mack, 205-591-7205;

John Stephenson (England) 044-1782-644095, john@tackleexchange.co.uk;

Don Carlstrom, Jr., 352-390-3139, dcarlstromjr@cfl.rr.com; Paul Snider (interim), 850-458-2111, paulsnider@cox.net

- Auction Chair Jay Zuhlke, 321-749-0615 (Cell), candyz@bellsouth.net
- Awards Chair Check Heddon, 407-862-7562 and Ed Weston, 561-622-9282
- FATC Newsletter Editor Steven W. Cox, P.O. Box 288, Panama City, FL 32402

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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 statewide 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 quarterly, 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: \$25.00 domestic, \$30 Canada, \$35 Foreign or \$500 (Domestic) Life Membership, \$600 (Canada) Life Membership, and \$700 (Foreign) Life Membership (20x annual dues). Please direct membership inquiries or applications (with your dues) to the FATC Secretary listed in the box above.





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"The Tackle Box" Classifieds

Looking for that one particular lure to complete your collection? Want to sell the rare lure that doesn't quite fit with the rest of your collection? FATC News is introducing a new classified section for its members. For only a few dollars you can place a 4 line classified ad for all your fellow collectors to see in the next newsletter. Contact Steve Cox for more information or to place your ad, 850-769-5585, email: econfinatackle@knology.net

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PAST AND CURRENT NOTES OF INTER

If you have not noticed, NFLCC has just completed a significant upgrade of the NFLCC Gazette. The September 2006 issue is forty pages in length with a color front and back cover, lots of color photographs and many interesting stories and ads. Please try to attend some of the NFLCC regional meets and the National in Louisville this year. While there, take the time to congratulate NFLCC Gazette Editor Jim Fleming and NFLCC President Bill McVeigh for their hard work in enhancing the Gazette. Since many of our FATC members are also NFLCC members, we are encouraged to observe an organization with its great past history experiencing new growth and fresh ideas, which can only be good news for the entire tackle collecting hobby.

VEAL OYSTER FRIZEE

2 doz. oysters 2 lbs. tender veal I thsp. flour

1 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper Hot toast points

Cut veal into small thin pieces three inches square. Fry slowly in drippings. When brown, add oysters with their liquor. Thicken with flour rubbed to paste with a little cold water. Season and cook until edges of oysters curl. Serve in deep dish with toast points.

SHRIMP A LA BANG

Arrange a layer of shrimp in baking dish. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and chivos, add a thin layer of bread crumbs and cover generously with butter. Add another layer of shrimp, etc., until dish is filled. Bake in a moderately hot oven for 20 minutes, and serve with plenty of melted butter sauce. A quart of shrimp, 3 heaping teaspoons chives, 2 scant cups crumbs, and half-pound butter will be needed.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF DOC'S MENHADEN BAIT

Doc's Menhaden takes more fish when worked fast near the surface. Move the rod tip with a rocking motion of the wrist during retrieve, but bait should not be jerked; run it to simulate minnow motion.

Much skill can be acquired in working this lure and it's a genuine thrill to make'em do business when all other baits fail.

At times, fish deeper and slow, lift rod and give reel three or four turns, pause somewhat in rhythmic intervals.

All game fish will take this bait, especially Black Bass, Jacks, Specks, in fresh water; Blues, Mackerel, Crevalle, Snook and Trout in salt water.

Repolish lure with fine steel wool. drop of oil applied after use preserves bright-

Why not give yourself a break and go fishing. You cannot worry, and you'll forget your troubles, hoping a big one strikes. Take a tip-give it a flip (Doc's Menhaden) and have a whale of a time. It's good for you, be-You'll live longer. lieve me.

Paper insert for the Doc's Menhaden Box

On the opposite page are two colorful brochures printed in the early to mid 1950s by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the State of Florida. These brochures highlight both fresh and salt water fishing opportunities in the state and the fresh water issue from 1954 provides a listing of every licensed fish camp in the state. Each camp's operator name and address, the body of water, the number of boats and the number of cabins available, is given. The salt water issue contains a schedule of boat license fees with incremental increases of 20 cents per foot, up to vessels of 163 feet in length. Also included are the different types of salt water fish that abound in Florida waters and some "interesting and eclectic" recipes for the 1950s homemaker, (with no particular regard as to gender)...

FISH BAKED IN BROWN PAPER BAG (6 Servings)

3-lb. fish cleaned and split Cream 1/3 cup soft butter with 1 thsp. flour

2 thsp. finely chopped onion

I tosp. lemon juice

1/4 tsp. pepper 2 tbsp. solt

Dip in salt solution made of 2 thsp. salt dissolved in 1 cup of cold water. Dip in salt solution made of Z thsp. salt dissolved in 1 cup of cold water. Allow to stand from 3 to 8 minutes. Drain and dry. Spread top with paste made of butter, flour, onion, lemon juice and pepper. Butter or ail a large brown paper bag (or use parchment paper). Lay fish carefully in bag (bag can be slit down side). Press air from bag. Fold over carefully. Fold over end 3 times. Fold sides and corners gently. Lay on a baking sheet or dripping pan. Place in hot over. Reduce heat and bake 45 minutes when bag is browned evenly (not burned). (Bag will brown in 10 minutes.) Open bag and slip fish to serving nlatter.

Suggestion: Use mangrove snapper, sea trout, red fish, Spanish mackerel or any medium sized firm fish. This method of cooking fish climinates all odor and the unpleasant cleaning of cooking pan.

STUFFED CUCUMBERS WITH SHRIMP

Boil six cucumbers with salt until half cooked. Scoop out the centers and mix them with 1 lb. cooked shrimp, 2 tablespoons tomato, ½ cup mushrooms, 1 cup fresh bread crumbs, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon minced parsley, and ¼ teaspoon minced onion; chop fine and fry in butter. Fill the cucumbers with this, sprinkle with bread crumbs, and put a piece of butter on each. Bake about 10 minutes.

FISH CROQUETTES

Left-over fish (fried, baked, broiled or boiled)

(6 Servings)
Salt and pepper to taste 1 cup mashed potatoes 1 egg beaten

Bread crumbs

Left-over fish may be used. Pick out bones, run through grinder with a little onion. Season with salt and pepper. Mix 1 cup of above with 1 cup mashed pototoes. Mould into balls. Dip in bread crumbs, beaten egg, and crumbs. Fry brown. Drain on crushed paper.

FLORIDA LOBSTER THERMIDOR

1 Florida lobster

1/2 tsp. salt 1/4 tsp. dry mustard 1/4 tsp. paprika

2 tbsp. butter 2 tbsp. chopped onion 2 tbsp. diced mushrooms

1 cup cream 1 tsp. chopped parsley

2 tbsp. flour

2 thsp. grated cheese Boil Florida lobster in seasoned water 15 min, and split in halves. Remove unedible parts. Remove meat from shell and dice. Mix with sauce made by melting butter, adding onion, and cooking until yellow. Add flour and seasonings and cook a few minutes before adding the cream. Stir until boiling begins and add the parsley and cubed crawfish meat. Stuff into shell, sprinkle lightly with cheese, or add cheese to the sauce. Bake at 450° until a delicate brown. Garnish with sliced lemon.

In Memoriam

Long time FATC member Harvey Garrison passed on earlier in December at age 62, after a battle with cancer. Harvey's daughter, April, posted a warm and heartfelt statement on Joe's message board December 11th, asking that his friends celebrate his life as one about passion, happiness, friends and family. FATC has sent flowers to the family and a special Shakespeare tackle award will be dedicated to the memory of Harvey at the Daytona show in February 2007. President Ed Pritchard states, "Harvey was one of the good guys, and I know he will be missed by all who knew him. He had a good and kind heart. At this time let's all remember to keep Harvey and his family in our prayers".



ORANGE COUNTY (continued)

Name of Camp	Operator's Name and Address	Body of Water	No. of Boats	No, of Cabin
Winter Garden				
Colored Dock	Ward Britt		6	0
	Box 98		- 100	
	Winter Garden, Fla.			
	Anna Bell Mott		14	0
	Route 2, Box 121 Winter Garden, Fla.			
Moose Head Camp	Berye Bates	Take touch		
CONTRACTOR TOTAL	Route 1	Lake Apopka	14	4
and the same of th	Apopka, Fla.			
fohn's Camp	John W. McGraw	Lake Apopka	10	4
	Killarney, Fla.		-	150
	W. E. Eubanks	St. Johns River	3	0
	General Delivery			
Owen Fish Camp	Titusville, Fla. J. R. Owen		1000	
The second second	628 W. Gore	Lake Apopka	- 8	0
	Orlando, Fla.	THE PERSON NAMED IN	2	
Colored Dock	Rosa Manda		1 66	



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4 feet	17.85	150 feet	27
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Doug Brace's outstanding display of York/Eger Lures from The Villages of Lady Lake show.





Ed Bauries, exhibit winner at The Villages of Lady Lake for his Florida Lure Maker display.

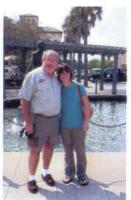


(above)

Ed Bauries' SUV, parked on a side street at The Villages, was the apparent target of a hit-and-run golf cart! This note, found under Ed's windshield wiper, gave him quite a "start" for about 90 seconds. He then realized that the name and phone number was lifted from a pop hit by Tommy Tutone, and the jig was up!



Catherine Carlstrom, Lilly Carlstrom, Katy Pratt, and Megan Hankin, hard working registration volunteers for The Villages of Lady Lake show.



Proud dad Steve Cox and daughter Nicki at The Villages fountain.



Sally Jett, Nicki Cox, and Ryan Keith at The Villages of Lady Lake.



The FATC News

P.O. Box 288 Panama City, Florida 32402

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