IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM H. “BILL” STUART

THE RAT TRAP
CATCHES THE BASS!

SURE BASS BAIT
The Spring Clamps Shut and Holds Bass on Hook.
EVERY FISHERMAN SHOULD HAVE ONE!
Ask your Dealer. If he cannot supply you, send $1.50 with this ad and we will mail you one direct.
RAT TRAP BAIT CO
LAKE ALFRED, FLORIDA

THE ONLY BAIT WITH CONFIDENCE

COLLOQUE OF FLORIDA ADS

THIS IS THE STORE

that for 44 years has endeavored to increase your fishing pleasure . . .
COME SEE US SOMETIME
GENE’S TACKLE
518 Ballough Rd. Daytona Beach, Fla.
DAYTONA BEACH SHOW 2019

Collection of Rainey Secrets

Excellent made Bobber’s

Earl Gresh made wood map

Karen & Arthur Edwards

Butch Carey & John Elder

Bill Bailey, Rusty Jessee, Jan Cummings

Jay White w/ Reel
DAYTONA BEACH SHOW 2019

Mike Mais & Bob Coon checking out some tackle

Sam & Denise Bryant

Steven Rampesad, Best Florida Display of Show of Bass Scale lures

Ed Weston talking lures

Scott Morgan lures

Robinson Lures

John & Mac Hoover

Not Paw Paw
DAYTONA BEACH SHOW 2019

Reel Lures and Charmer Baits

Nice Collection of 4Ts

Serious Tackle Conversation Going On

2019 FATC Club Lure by Rusty Jessee

Sam Bryant’s Dalton Special Collection

Barbara Brace’s Award Winning Mermaid Display

David Lindsay & Bob Bulkley Checking out some Tackle
DAYTONA BEACH SHOW 2019

Richard Hart calling the Auction

Barbara Brace
Best Topical Display
Mermaid Display

Bill Hoeter
Best Reel Display

Patti Carey & Joe Yates running the Front Desk

Butch Carey
Best of Show
Stevens Big Game Reels

John Etchieson
Best Folkart Display

[Back Left to Right]
Chuck Heddon, Ed Weston
[Front Left to Right]
Sheila Quinn, Sally Jett & Elizabeth Yates

Steven Rampersad
Best Florida Display
Florida Bass Scale Lures

Jack Fenwick
Best Educational Display
Various Florida Lures

David Lindsey
Best Non-Florida Display
Heddon Crab Wigglers
FATC AWARDS CRITRIA

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 at one show is not eligible to win another major award 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—Rick Vaughn and Paul Snider

FATC MEMBERSHIP DUES
[PLEASE READ]

Over the years we have received membership dues from existing members and new members in a variety of ways and locations. Some have been sent to officers and directors of the club, some have gone to the president and an increasing number have been paid by PayPal. On occasion, some of these payments have been misplaced or not received at all, frustrating our new members and existing members alike. As a result members were not receiving any information or Newsletters from the FATC.

To resolve this issue and smooth out our process, we would like to have all new or existing membership dues sent to one location “shown below”. This is our Treasurers address. Send it to that address if you are paying by CHECK [make checks payable to fatc] PAYPAL WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED AND IS THE PREFERABLE WAY TO PAY. SEE THE FATC WEBSITE.

Also, in order to get everyone in the directory, who wants to be in the directory, we are requiring that all membership dues be paid by March 31st of each year, so we can include the directory in our second Newsletter sent out in April. THANK YOU for your help in these matters and we’re looking forward to seeing you all at the next show!

MAIL CHECKS TO:
FATC
485 Marsh Creek Road
Venice, Florida 34292-5314

PAY THROUGH PAYPAL:
Use The FATC Website
www.fatc.net

"REELS AS BIG AS YOUR HEAD"

Always Buying Big
Game Reels, Rods, and all Misc. Big
Game Tackle
Trophies, Gaffs, Pins, Patches, Hooks, Misc.
South Bend "Zane Grey" Teasers & All Teasers

Also Paying Top Dollar For High
Quality Fly Fishing Reels to Include:
Hardy, Meek, Zwarg, Vom Hofe, Walker, Mills,
Leonard, Philbrook & Payne & All Others

BUYING HIGH QUALITY SALT WATER REELS
Please Contact:
Ed Pritchard - 561-748-7508 or 561-818-1081
Visit us at - AntiqueFishingReels.com
Or E-Mail - reeltackle@aol.com
THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS
AT DAYTONA REGISTRATION

It takes a lot of volunteers to put on the Daytona Show, from organization, to table set-up. We want to especially recognize those that gave up their show time, beach time and shopping time to work at the registration desk, answering question and welcoming the members and the public. Special Thanks to; Kathy Hecht, Marilynn Zorzi, Grace Chlastawa, Connie Rutherford, Shelia Quinn, Joe & Liz Yates, Susan Beebe, Barbara Brace, Sherrill & Dick Braun, Nancy Brock, Carol Schultz and Chuck Heddon. Looking forward to seeing all of you this year at the other shows and 2020 Daytona Show.

Patti Carey

Kathy Hecht & Grace Chlastawa

President: Mike Hall, Jacksonville, FL
Vice President: Chuck Heddon, Longwood, FL
Secretary: Rick Vaughn, Nokomis, FL
Treasurer: Bill Premaza, Venice, FL
Advertising: Bill Snider, Pensacola, FL

Directors:
Paul Snider Pensacola, FL
Dale Van De Voort Lakeland, FL
Jim Duncan Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Chuck Heddon Longwood, FL

Ron Gast Frostproof, FL
Rick Vaughn Nokomis, FL
Butch Carey Key West, FL
Mike Mais Ocala, FL

F.A.T.C News Editor: Jeff Windsisman
2845 Berkley Rd. Auburndale, FL 33823
863-326-0757
jkwlure@tampabay.rr.com

Membership Director: Johnny Garland
423-943-3333
bagleyfanatic@gmail.com

F.A.T.C News is published tri-annually by FATC, a voluntary, not-for-profit corporation. Past issues can be viewed online at our Website: www.fatc.net
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Mike Hall

Finally recovered from the Daytona Show, I realized once again all the efforts paid off well with another successful Daytona gathering. This is only possible with the many club members volunteering there time at the registration table, special thanks to Patti Carey for her friendly good natured co-hosting skills and our new auction coordinators; Dennis Coley and Stacy Reilly. I also want to thank all the club members that help with appraisals, table set-up and everyone that attended the show, that wanted to help out in anyway. Looking forward to Daytona 2020, this will be my 4th Daytona show I’ve hosted, and I hope to continue improving this extraordinary event with lessons learned and suggestion from members.

The loss of our dear friend, Bill Stuart were in our thoughts during Daytona weekend and we continue to remember his friendship, perfection and strong support for the FATC. Although the weekend was heartfelt, we as members were all together to remember Bill Stuart, founding editor of the FATC news, honorary member devoted to education and preservation of Florida made lures. A proclamation submitted by life member, Frank Carter, proposes the club rename the Best Educational awards, to the William H. Stuart Educational Award. What a great tribute to honor and remember Bill at every show.

The FATC Summer Show will be hosted by Jim Berglund on June 21st & 22nd, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Fleming Island, Florida, just outside Jacksonville, FL. It’s more of a country atmosphere too! and this show should bring some goodies off the street. Our Fall FATC Show will be hosted by Jeff Windisman on October 3rd, 4th & 5th, 2019, at the Howard Johnson Inn in Winter Haven, Florida. Then comes the Daytona International Show for 2020 on February 28th, 29 & March 1st.

This newsletter is only possible with submission offered by our members! We all have some interesting tackle of some kind that we could write a story about, maybe a recent find, or part of your collection, Jeff would be happy to help you with it. Thanks to all participating in the shows, a great weekend for all, and let’s fill them tables! Hope to see you at the next show!

Happy Tackle Hunting

LETS GO FISHING

Author Unknown

Adam, God made out of dust, but thought it best to make me first. So I was made before the man, to answer God’s most holy plan. My body God did make complete, but without arms, legs, or feet. My ways and acts He did control, but to my body, gave no soul. A living being I became, and Adam to me gave my name. I from his presence then withdrew and no more of Adam never knew. I did my maker’s law obey, nor never went from it astray. Thousands of miles I go in fear, and seldom on the earth appear. For purpose wise, which God did see, he put living soul in me. A soul from me my god did claim, and took from my soul again. So when from my soul had fled, I was the same as when first made. So without hands, feet nor soul, I travel from pole to pole. I labor hard by day and night, to fallen man I give great light. Thousands of people young and old, will at my death great light behold. No right or wrong can I conceive, the Scriptures I cannot believe. Although my name therein is found, they are to me an empty sound. No fear of death doth trouble me, real happiness I shall never see. To heaven I shall never go, nor to a grave nor hell below. Now when these lines you slowly read, go search your Bible with all speed. For that my name is written there, I honestly to you declare!
EDITOR NOTES
Jeff Windisman

This Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Bill Stuart. He was our first editor and keep this title till 1998-99. He ran our auctions for a number of years and was instrumental in making the rules that we go by to this day! Bill also wrote articles throughout his time with this club about all different things, especially if it was a Florida lure! In this issue we honor Bill with some of his editorials and stories that, in my opinion states what he was all about. We also had long time members that wanted to say a few words in memory of Bill on how he had influenced them.

In this issue we have, minutes from the Daytona Board meeting and the annual treasurer report from Bill Premaza, “members take a look at the report we need to get more members to attend our shows”! We have another Unknown Florida Maker by Frank Carter and Jim Berglund is the Featured member. As stated above we took an early story by Bill on the Rat-Trap Lure and Ron Gast sent ads from the Florida Wildlife Magazine from the middle 1950s.

As you receive this issue, notice that we are now mailing our newsletters in envelopes. This is to help with the deliverer of the newsletter, in the hopes that it will get to our members in a more timely manner. We have two great shows coming up this year, so make your plans now and bring someone with you that would be willing to become a member of this great club!

The Dalton Man

Jeff Windisman—I met Bill in 1993 at my first FATC show, I had been collecting for about four years and didn’t have a clue what I had. Bill sat down with me at that show going through what I had. His first words to me was to get all the information that I could acquire. One thing that sticks out to me, was I had a Rubber Pflueger 7” Spearing Decoy that we were looking at, another member came up and stated he would trade for the lure. Bill right away told the member that this is newbie and he needs some seasoning before you jump on him!! Bill and I had many visits after that show at his home or mine and I learn a lot from him. He coached me on how to find out history on collecting fishing tackle, which helped me to be able to write articles in the Florida Makers volumes! Bill was friend, historian, and gentleman. He will be missed!
FATC TREASURER REPORT

Displayed below for your review are financial statements reflecting the Florida Antique Tackle Collector Inc. balance sheet for December 31, 2017 and 2018 [below left]. Also included are income and expense statements for fiscal 2017 and 2018 [below right].

While FATC’s cash position has remained stable over the past three years, higher newsletter cost and other expenses, especially show related, have increased. In order to produce successful shows, members need to attend and participate by purchasing tables and providing display’s of their collections as well as tackle for sale. Outside attendance for the Daytona Show was up significantly, but member participation was down from past years.

FATC’s success depends on member participation. Please attend our shows and be a party to our success.

Thanks

Bill Premaza-Treasurer
FATC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DAYTONA 2019

Rick Vaughn

Meeting Called to Order: 7:30am 2/23/2019

Treasurers report issued with summary from Bill Premaza, report accepted by board.

Secretary minutes from 2018 St-Pete Show issued, accepted by board

Discussion about show table reservations and requiring payment in advance of show, agreed by Board. No table will be reserve without payment in advance, to ensure club does not pay for tables that are not being used or rented by members.

Discussion about current show room size for Daytona and if we could possibly renegotiate contracts with hotel for smaller space for upcoming shows. Mike Hall to investigate.

Jeff Windisman addressed issues with newsletter delivery and why some members are not receiving them. Notes if newsletter are mailed in first class envelopes instead of bulk mail, the post offices will run them in their mailing tracker and not get set to the side, as with bulk mail and will be delivered promptly. It will be an additional cost, but will ensure a better delivery. Board agrees. Motion passed. Jeff also discussed issues of new club members not receiving welcome letters or newsletters. Currently new membership applications go to Johnny Garland [membership director] then their info was sent Jeff W. [newsletter editor] to be added to the mailing list, then membership fees, are sent to Bill Premaza [treasurer]. Jeff W. agrees to handle new member responsibilities, i.e. welcome package, including welcome letter, club info and current newsletter.

Jeff W. also to host Winter Haven show for early October, 2019. Details to follow with info posted on our FATC website. Also currently checking into a Bartow show location for early 2020.

Mike Mais discussed his work involving a search for new show host and new venues. Agreed mid June and mid October are ideal times. Mike also proposed sending minnow members newsletters directly addressed to them. Board agrees. Mike to also research current number of and updated info on life members.

Mike Hall suggested board members and overall membership submit anecdotes to newsletter regrading current passing of honorary member Bill Stuart.

Ed Weston questioned advertising efforts for the 2019 Daytona Show. Mike Hall noted articles in the Florida Sportsman magazine and ads in the Coastal Angler, as well as local newspapers.

Board discussed and agreed to offering free show registration and one free table rental at the daytona show to new members to encourage attendance.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:13am

Members in Attendance

Bill Premaza  Butch Carey  Chuck Heddon  Ed Weston
Mike Hall     Paul Snider  Ron Gast     Jeff Windisman
Dale Van De Voort  Rick Vaughn  Mike Mais  Jim Berglund
IN MEMORY OF

WILLIAM H. “BILL” STUART JR.

JULY 7, 1936—FEBRUARY 21, 2019

William [Bill] Hood Stuart, Jr., 82 of Bartow, Florida, died peacefully on February 21, 2019 in his home, comforted by his loving family and his belief in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A graduate of Summerlin Institute, Washington State University, Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and Erskine College with degrees in Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and MBA’s in Business.

Bill met Nancy Sell in college and they were married on August 4, 1961 and had a adventurous life for the next 57 years! Once they settled down back in Bartow, FL they started their family, having two daughters, Kennedy and Crosland. Bill and Nancy had five grandchildren, Margrette, Sara Martin, Dabney Anna, David Michael and Nancy, they also had a great grandson Connor. Bill built a professional career within a diverse group of industries, including ranching, mining, citrus and manufacturing. Whether it was the Stuart Ranch or American Resources or the Bagley Bait Company, the goal was always about excellence which often lead to creating industry standards.

Bill was a collector and that included ideas which kept him energized. He often was the genesis of big ideas and was forever encouraging others to think bigger, either in business or tackle collecting. But it was never about the gathering of things, rather it was about creating an historical context. Bill always had a purposefulness in collecting, it wasn't the assembling of one-of-a-kind antique fishing tackle, it was the history behind them! This lead Bill to write with the help of other co-authors to produce, “Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures”, the go to reference for Florida made tackle. Bill Stuart was a mentor to many people in his life, from the young people looking for their way in the world, to the guy or gal wanting to collect fishing tackle. Bill was always there if you had a question about religion, business or lures and always had an encouraging word for you, to help lead you on the right path, he will truly be missed.

Frank Carter—I had been collecting for less than a year in 1990, when Sonny Clay introduced me to Bill Stuart at my first lure show in Sewanee, Georgia. Bill was generous with his time and his knowledge as he guided me in my transition from being a accumulator of old lures to becoming a collector. He taught me that a collector searches for information as well as the lures, and shares information through displays and through writing. He encouraged me to contribute stories and photos to his series of books: “Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures”. I will be forever grateful for his friendship and for all the time we spent together.

Mike Hall—I’ve often thought of Bill Stuart as the “Wise One”. So much knowledge and happy to share his thoughts with you over a good drink, a rusty nail. Bill help make the FATC the club that it is today, we are so grateful!

Charles Tanner—Bill got me started on submitting articles on antique tackle. In particular he thought my interest in old steel fishing rods would add a little diversity to the club. I truly appreciate what Bill did for me and as well as all members. He will be missed!
Jack Fenwick—Many, many years ago I made a decision to start collecting fishing lures ...and only Eger’s at that time. At the first FATC show I attended I was introduced to Bill and was told that he would be helpful if I had question. I have to admit that I probably bugged him and a few others with more questions than they wanted to hear or had time to answer, but bill was always helpful. As time went on he also encouraged me, as well as others, to not just collect lures, but educate others about our various lure companies. In this regard, Bill came out with Volume 1 of Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures ...and from this point on, if I had a question, I would always prefer to it by saying; “...and yes, I’ve read the book, But…” Many years later, when I was retiring from a 30 year career in law enforcement with the State of Florida, I met Bill in Orlando to catch a ride with him over to Daytona for our FATC show. At the time, I was retiring, but considering going to work with a friend of mine as a manufacturer’s sales rep. I knew that Bill had owned Bagley Baits and they probably used sales rep’s for selling their fishing lures. Who better to ask about a profession of reping than the owner of a company that used rep’s? ...So, naturally a discussion of his business and their use of rep’s came up. When I asked Bill what he thought about reps, ‘I’ll never forget his response…… “Sales rep’s are like prostitutes”. You really don’t like them, but they provide a necessary service and you can’t do without them. ...Gosh, did that make me feel good. But, Bill was truthful...and I’ll admit that was exactly the way it was!

Gene Meisberger—Bill Stuart, will be greatly missed by all of us in the antique tackle and lure community. I will never forget the first time we met. We forged a lasting friendship over a bunch of little fly lures. More than that he was a friend with a wealth of knowledge on many subjects. One of the most interesting aspects was his personal life story that he shared with me. I hope that someone will share it with all of us. I know I will see him again!

Gary Simpson—I t was 1993, I believe, at the time my fascination for old fishing lures was just beginning to really catch fire. I already had a lot of lures...and I had Karl White’s lure reference book. But still, there were many baits in my “lure room” that I could not identify. I had been to just one FATC Daytona show and had met Bill Stuart there. I enjoyed talking with him and could clearly see that this was a man that could answer a lot of question. I invited Bill to my home to look at lures. Bill arrived on a late spring evening. After chatting with me and my wife and little daughter for a while, we retired to the lure room. He sat on the floor while I pulled out tackle boxes, cardboard boxes and bags full of plugs and he eagerly poured through them all, answering my questions and offering much more information. I was enjoying this immensely, and was pleased that bill really seemed to be enjoying himself, too. It was easy to see that his interest was primarily in Florida-made pieces and, honestly, that was the evening my Florida lure addiction commenced, too. We drank Mary’s sweet tea, played with lures, told stories and had a great time. It remains my fondest memory of Bill. And it ranks very high on my list of “fondest lure-collecting memories, too.

Chuck Heddon—The loss of Bill Stuart goes beyond our club and his many friends. He was an individual who believed in service to his fellow man, and as many of us that knew him can attest, He strove to do more with his life than just take up space. If we would all strive to be just a little more like him this world would be a better place.

Larry Lucas—Back when I was president of the club, Bill told me I should always go to the funerals of club members who had passed. Then he told me he would go with me as long as I drove. I would meet him on the side of I-4 outside Lakeland and we would drive to wherever the service was held. I heard some incredible stories on the drive and always stopped somewhere for a good dinner. It was a great way to pay our respects to the families of the club members and get to know a wonderful man along the way.

Jim & Stephanie Duncan—Hi Bill, We hope your journey went smoothly and that you have already located the best place to fish. We apologize for procrastinating and not letting you know before your journey started how much we appreciated having the opportunity to know you. For twenty years we got to sit and talk with you at the shows. You were always willing to share your knowledge and help us along our tackle collecting journey. Your wealth of knowledge was amazing and you were always willing to share that knowledge to help us as we worked on building our tackle collection. Bill we have always felt that we were privileged to have known you. You embodied the word “gentleman”. Your humor and wit put a smile on our faces. Sit back, put the rod in the water and while you are waiting for that bite have a rusty nail! See you in the future! PS; We expect you to guide us to the best fishing spots.

Jan Cummings—Bill Stuart in my opinion personified the true; ‘southern gentleman”. When I attended my first FATC show, I knew that I was in the right place! Of course it was about the tackle, but also the warm welcome extended to me. Bill was of course one of those people. The last few years saw more visits and frequent phone calls and several without one word of lures. He will be missed as all good people should be, and when we walk through the doors at Daytona and look to the left; to quote Joe Stagnitti, We will remember Bill...
Looking at Bill’s early Newsletter editorials, I found one that deserved repeating. Which shows his thoughts on business and the club into the future.

The second topic is of importance, I believe, to all of us, because it involves the future, regardless of weather we consider our collecting a hobby, a “mad” money sideline or a business.

In my opinion, as a part of our participation in a show, we each need to have a display of some type or another. Actually, it is more important than that. We each should want to have a display of some type or another. Our motivation is to get more people involved. Because the more are involved, in turn, brings more material out of the woodwork, both in terms of actual specimen and history and that then extends the process by getting yet others interested.

This concept actually should be more important for those who are making this a business than it is to those for which it is just a hobby. At least in my business, I’m always wanting to increase my customer base which is why we are supporting sponsor of the National Take a Kid Fishing Foundation Program.

Without his permission, I want to point to Fred Kerr, our new VP, as a prime example. It takes Fred just at two hours, on a good day, to set up his display and taking it down also takes that long. It’s hard work but I’m confident that he does not begrudge a minute of the process because it is worth it to his business.

Or take a Bob Dennis who doesn’t sell anything. He might trade you something, but he doesn’t sell and yet he knows the importance of taking the time and making the effort to put up his display.

The overall reason we should want to display is to allow the public or the new collector to explore and discover the possibilities of what can be done with this collecting of ours.

Table after table of nothing but merchandise “for sale” will never to get anyone excited, nor will it motivate the newcomer to get involved.

A thought - we need to treat our collecting like we do our jobs or businesses. For the most part, if we treat our job or our business the way we treat our collecting, most of us couldn’t afford to collect.

Think about it !!!
The Rat-Trap lure was the creation of Wayne Dyer of Winter Haven, Florida in 1951. Wayne was born in Pulaski, Tennessee on September 25, 1916 and a few years later his family moved to Bartow, Florida. He attended school in Bartow. Wayne was a butcher by trade and worked for a number of groceries before going into partnership with Eloy Delgado to open the “Grande Market” in Winter Haven in the 1940s. The market was named after the street where it was located. The street was later renamed Pope Street. Wayne was also involved with Delgado, one of which was the “Southern Aire” which specialized in Bar-B-Que and catering.

The Rat-Trap lure was a spoon with an actual rat trap mechanism attached. The mechanism was activated or sprung by a pull on the hook. The lure was designed to be used with a skirt, and had a wire weed guard to protect the hook. The spoons were made at a local machine shop and in its first production run of 500 lures, the spoon was made of steel and weighed 21/32nds of an ounce. Wayne, prior to his death, told me that the lure was too heavy. Less than 250 of the first version were sold. Shortly thereafter he made a second production run of 2,000 lures with the spoon made of aluminum. The aluminum version weighed 3/8ths of an ounce. Wayne had originally intended to patent the lure. The box literature notes “Patent Pending” and the aluminum version has “Pat. Pend.” stamped into the metal; however, friends advised him not to complete the patent process because they believed the market for the lure was only regional and therefore, too limited. Both varieties have been found NIB with the box literature. The earlier variety in a plastic tube {shown in picture at right} and the later aluminum one in a two-piece plastic box. Neither of the packages carry any printing. The early version came with skirt attached. The Rat-Trap lure is misidentified in both editions of Karl White’s book. Photo {bottom left} shows both White’s and the museum’s specimen and they are identical. I appreciate Karl’s cooperation in loaning his Rat-Trap to the museum for examination and comparison.

Wayne tried to buy skirts from a small skirt and lure manufacturer, but they refused his request, thinking he would compete with them. Not to be deterred, he went to McCrory’s 5 & Dime store and bought red vinyl which he cut by hand and after a great deal of time and effort in experimenting, he learned to make a skirt suitable for his Rat-Trap lure. Subsequently, Wayne a former employee of a rubber skirt manufacturer who gave him some rough ideas on how to make cutters for rubber material.

In 1951, Wayne took on a partner in his lure venture, Monk Hughes.
In a “tiny hole in the wall” shop in Lake Alfred, owned by Monk, Wayne and six girls, started making the skirts and selling the Rat-Trap. The Rat-Trap lure operation continued for only a year or two; however the partnership lasted until 1966 when it was dissolved. The survivor was the skirt manufacturing operation.

In 1956, Wayne, Delgado, Jack Miller and Bill Rutland went on a fishing trip to Cuba to fish fabulous Lake Tesoro [Treasure] in Matanzas Providence, which is one of the southernmost spots in that country. Wayne knew fishing and Delgado knew Spanish. The fishing was fantastic, but conditions were primitive and the last four miles into the lake were on foot through a swamp. Wayne fell in love with the area and decided to build a fishing camp on the lake. Between 1956 and 1958, Wayne built the camp which consisted of three buildings, one for sleeping, a second for the kitchen and eating facilities, and a third for storage and as a bunk house for his guides. The photo {at right} Wayne and his guides getting the boat ready for a fishing trip. Delgado would book the quest at the Grande Market and Wayne would meet them in Jaguey Grande, the nearest town and a four hour drive from Havana. Wayne took them to his camp by airboat. He also wanted a boat on pontoons and H.W. McIver of Winter Haven fabricated the pontoons for him. Considering the political situation in Cuba at the time, taking these bomb-shaped pontoons, as well as the airboat part into the country and through customs was quite an undertaking. Wayne had also fallen in love with a young Cuban girl, Yolanda, and they were married in the Evangelical Church in Jaguey Grande on June 1, 1958 [I’m indebted to Yolanda for providing some of these photos]. In early 1958, a military helicopter landed near the camp and Fidel Castro and company arrived, unannounced, but they had come to fish and relax, not to fight. Castro also fell in love with the area and built a camp across the lake from Wayne’s. Wayne said, compared to mine, his was a palace. With the political situation in Cuba changing, there was a loss of interest in fishing there and in December of 1959, Wayne and Yolanda closed his camp and left Cuba.

As time moved on, Yolando became more involved in managing the skirt manufacturing operation. Wayne continued to search out new fishing opportunities in Canada, Mexico, Central and South America. At the urging of his longtime friend, Jimmy Rowland, a fishing tackle manufacturer’s representative with Robinson Company out of Atlanta in 1974, Wayne became one of the founding members of the Executive Advisory Board of the Bass Research Foundation. That same year, he was honored by the BRF. A year or so later, he received The Dolphin Award in Sports Fishing, as he was inducted into the International Fishing Hall of Fame.

Wayne passed away on April 15, 1991, but today the Rat-Trap Company continues as one of the largest and oldest OEM skirt companies in the Country. The vinyl skirts of the Rat-Trap days gave away to rubber in the early 1980s, then silicone in 1989, and today they are made of Lumaflex which was introduced in 1991.
A COLLOQUE OF SPORTING LISTINGS IN THE 1950s
“FLORIDA WILDLIFE” MAGAZINES
Ron Gast

The “Florida Wildlife” magazine has always been a favorite of Florida outdoors enthusiasts. It always contained interesting articles about fishing and hunting as well as some of the latest outdoors products. While going through some of the older copies of the magazine, some of the listed products and personalities stood out. A collogue of some of these fishing and hunting items available to sportsmen is shown below and the following pages. Also included are some photos of Walt Willman, the Heddon PAL P-41 inventor and casting tournament champion. A letter to the editor by Ken Curtis, the fishing buddy of Bill Eger and inventor of the Eger Weedless Dillinger. The excerpts are shown in the month and year of the magazine edition they were taken from.

These ads are from the December 1951 issue of the Florida Wildlife Magazine.
Ads from the December 1952 issue of the Florida Wildlife Magazine
Ad from the March 1955 Florida Wildlife Magazine.

Story on Walt Willman from the April 1955 Florida Wildlife Magazine, which most likely was taken in Orlando, FL at Lake Eola Park.

Walter (Pop) Willman, Dean of the St. Petersburg Rod & Gun Club’s College of Casting and Free Tackle Clinic, and holder of six world’s bait casting records, shows one of his weekly classes how to rig and adjust a bait casting outfit for Florida fishing.

Below ad shows the Gar Plug with color listed, from May 1955 Florida Wildlife Magazine.

Ad from the April 1955 Florida Wildlife Magazine showing the “Bomber Jerk Bait”

Ad from the April 1955 Florida Wildlife Magazine.
In July 1956 this field testing article was sent to the editor of the Florida Wildlife Magazine by Ken Curtis. It consists of three lures that were tested and in the article explains what the tester thought of the lures.

**AMONG** the basic types of lures ideal for spinning, bait casting and trolling, a good spoon can be a sound selection for the angler's tackle box, for there are occasions when fish will go for spoons—and definitely!

Until the scientifically-designed “Captain Action” spoon came along, fishermen were without a truly rustless, non-tarnishing spoon bait. In use, available plated or painted products either had to be kept polished or colored to maintain full effectiveness.

The “Captain Action” spoon, available in seven sizes, can never rust or tarnish because it is made of stainless steel, is fitted with silver-soldered McMahoon stainless steel swivels and stainless steel connecting rings and utilizes a stainless steel screw that defies stripping; at least FWFGT could not strip screw threads in several attempts!

Although the “Captain Action” all-stainless steel spoon is revolutionary among spoon type baits, it was not rushed into production to hurriedly cash-in on the long-standing, recognized need for such a product. Genial Ed Butler, head of Butler & Company, a Sarasota firm that now makes the lure, firmly believed that his product had scientific design and assured fishing performance before he made it available for conducting field tests, various experimental shapes were trolled and their performances tested from a second boat following behind and alongside the lures. Finally, Butler and his engineers had two acceptable designs that looked almost identical to the eye, but had differences in action, one lure making a darting, darting flip every few seconds, revolving and twisting on itself but without twisting or fouling the line. Subsequently testing the Florida kingfish runs proved the latter, and of forty-seven kingfish favored one design over the other when the lures were worked side-by-side.

Butler had perfected his lure and was satisfied with its action and performance, but it took another year to make the cutting dies, this product being the market, performed by a highly-skilled German craftsman who learned his trade 54 years ago in Germany and who customarily worked within one thousandth of an inch tolerances. It cost Butler and his associates a great deal to make five dies; only the best of such will last when machining stainless steel.

Use of high-hardness 18-8 stainless steel makes for a very tough finished product that takes an extremely high and lasting polish. The material used is so tough that, in a stunt made at a national sports show, a broadhead arrow cast from an 80-lb. bow at close range failed to penetrate it.

Since its appearance on the market, the “Captain Action” spoon has created its own advertising. Taking the kingfish record for the State of Florida, #10 size lure, was a starter. Then Ed Luay and Vincent Martin, salt water anglers well known to Floridians, used the “Captain Action” spoons to take permit from Long Key Bridge. Dano and Betty Brown, of Florida West Coast TV fame, introduced the “Captain Action” to Nassau waters and film-recorded its success far from home. FWFGT used the “Captain Action” during Florida’s last two major kingfish runs and piled fish a foot deep in the boat.

FWFGT much prefers sizes 2, 3 and 5 for all-around fishing, but suggests having a size No. 7 along when the big ones are biting.

Aside from its fish-catching qualities, you’ll like the “Captain Action” stainless steel spoon because you can toss it in the tackle box after a trip with never a thought to its cleaning or care, knowing that it will be in good condition and ready to go to work when next selected.

List price is 95¢ for the size No. 2 and rise to $1.50 for sizes Nos. 7 and 10. Available at your local sporting good store, or from Captain Action Tackle Company, 1805 Oleander Street, Sarasota, Florida.

**WHAT** with the current crop of artificial baits being made in hundreds of different designs and combined actions, it is truly unusual to find one that is so radically new and unique, yet so lifelike, that it gets attention right away—especially when the interest comes from both fishermen and fish. At Winter Park, Florida, the Boone Bait Company has developed a technique and quality line of nylon jigs, flutter plugs, corked poppers and assorted casting plugs, but the catalog listing that gets the most interest whenever the Boone line is displayed to the public is their “Needlefish,” made in two casting size designs as well as two spinning sizes.

So far as FWFGT knows, the Boone product is the only needlefish artificial currently manufactured. It has been long needed, for among the natural baits, the elongated, elusive needlefish has always been a favorite with Florida fishermen. At Cocoa, Florida, a location that has just earned the intriguing title “trout capitol of the world,” the Boone needlefish lures have earned the permanent confidence of Indian River anglers; scarcely a week passes without a large fish being taken on one of the Boone baits, Mayor Gary Bennett, of Cocoa, advises.

FWFGT had very good luck with the Boone needlefish artificial on the grass flats back of Egmont Key, taking 42 trout in three trips, and found the spinning sizes very attractive to trout, while black bass, used without the tail spinner that comes with the No. 7004 catalog listing. In using these novel lures, FWFGT recommends working them so that their action closely imitates the movements of a live needlefish. This calls for fairly long casts and retrieves punctuated by long, motionless periods. The lures can easily be lured by more rests or very slow movement. Try a few short casts to work out the action sequence, then start fishing the lure at the end of long casts. FWFGT found the Boone needlefish particularly deadly at night, both in fresh water and salt.

The casting size comes with and without a tail spinner, each listing weighing 1/2 ounce and selling for $1.35. The spinning sizes weigh 1/2 ounce each and likewise can be had with or without a tail spinner, and retail for $1.25. FWFGT has better luck with the spinnerless styles and especially recommends Ns. 7001 and 7002 if you can get them. All four catalog listings. All have the same green-scale finish and feature yellow eyes with dark centers.

**IF YOU HAVE** resided in Florida for any length of time and are active as a fisherman, it is improbable that you have escaped hearing about the Jim Pfeffer Banana Lure. For many years it’s been a proved fish-getter in both fresh and salt water for anglers fortunate enough to acquire one from Pfeffer’s limited production for the commercial market. Now, the once-limited hand-carved and hand-painted models are being numerically produced in colorful Tenite plastic, but with all the built-in action and deadliness of Jim’s originals, in both spinning and casting weights.

FWFGT first made the acquaintance of the Jim Pfeffer Banana lures in 1945 while fishing the Mosquito Lagoon waters near Titusville with their inventor. Jim, then living in Oviedo, and Dr. Wilbur Davis of Orlando. Using a Jim Pfeffer plug with a yellow body and red spots the current #101 catalog listing, Dr. Davis caught a number of trout above six pounds in weight and Jim, sitting low in the bow of the boat and casting his plugs with finesse, took a wrapper that exceeded eleven pounds. That day, seeing was believing!

For fresh water bass, FWFGT later found the Pfeffer lures equally deadly, with the yellow frog, gold shiner and white-gray color combinations getting the most response as performers. The correct way to use any of the color in fresh water is to cast the floating plug near shoreline, close to logs, branches or grass patches, and then let the plug rest until all created ripples have vanished. Then give the rod tip a single, quick jerk. Let the lure rest for another five to ten seconds, and jerk the rod tip a couple of times —just enough to keep the lure moving a few inches at a time. Repeat the outlined procedure throughout the retrieve. Due to the curvature of the Banana lure you can jerk it many times in the same area and it will come up almost where it went down.

Using the lures in salt water, you have the choice of making them work on the surface or deep, depending on the depth of the water and the feeding habits of the fish being sought. Retrieving the plugs via a surface run produced constant reeling or屯效果. If you can cast long casts, try by making a long cast and retrieving the lures fast for a couple of seconds (to make the baits dive); then reducing reeling speed and action to suit personal whims. Using the described “deep dive” method, Walt Hudson, Jr., Orlando sporting goods dealer, caught a 94½-pound Jewfish with the Banana lure at Cape Romano, Fla., last year.

While any color selection from the Jim Pfeffer bait listings will catch fish, FWFGT
UNKNOWN FLORIDA LURE MAKERS
CENTRAL FLORIDA AREA
Frank Carter

Most of you know that I’m trying to build a time line of lures made in Florida. I display a version of the time line at our Daytona Show every year and try to find out as much information about the lure or lures and the person or persons that made these lures. Often, I’m able to find some information, but a lot are still unknown.

This issues unknown, is a well-crafted mouse lure, with the name “Mike Wall” hand written on the side of the mouse. The wood body is 3 3/4” in length and weighs 1/2oz. The treble hooks are attached with simply screw eyes, with the black bead eyes, leather ears and tail made of black coated wire, all add up to the work of a craftsman. Bill Stuart originally owned the lure, and he believed it was made in the Central Florida area, but was unable to get any further information. I acquired it several years ago and my research has also, not revealed information about this maker.

If you have an example of this mouse lure in your unknown pile, now you have a little information. If you have anymore information about this unknown mouse or the maker, please drop me a line, I appreciate getting any information that you might know. We all owe a dept of gratitude to; Doug Brace, the late Bill Stuart and the late Russ Riddle for their work on the publications of the six volumes; Florida Lures and Their Lures, and we all know the work it takes to find true and accurate information. I also want to thank Joe & Liz Yates for their creation of the website; “Joes Old lures bulletin Board” the place to go when we are not at a tackle show.

Thanks to all who helped with my collection!

~Chuck

WANTED: Genuine Heddon LURES

FATC NFLCC
C. HEDDON
519 Sugar Ridge Ct.
Longwood, FL 32779

(407) 862-7562

Cell: 321-439-4011 cheddon@mpinet.net
FEATURED MEMBER PROFILE
Jim Berglund

Born on April 10, 1976 in Plantation, Florida with the birth name of, James Paul Berglund, but I have carried the moniker of “Jim” since my late teens. Spending most of my young life in South Florida, hopping around from place to place between Fort Lauderdale and West Palm. Middle school is where I became interested in the outdoors [because back then we where told to]. I had found that there was always something to see if you look around especially when quiet, a heron, buffo toad, Florida cutter turtle or a red rat snake was always there to keep me company when outside.

As I got older, I found peace in Loxahatchee right behind my house, exploring every chance I could. This is where I found fishing as my new hobby of choice! One, I loved the excitement of using different things to out-smart catching of the finny critters and two, my mother loved cooking and eating them! This became a love I also acquired, because I was a fat happy kid with an urge to cook. In high school I returned to Deerfield Beach and quickly became a pier rat, using all my spare time learning the ways of the pilchard rings and sabiki rigs. Riding my bike to the beach, I spent my entire junior year working at the Ranch House Restaurant slinging burgers, just I could pay admission to sleep on a bench and to be there at sunrise to watch the tarpon roll by and listening for the tell-tale sound of my jig master drag singing.

After high school, I found cooking to be something that kept me engaged and went to culinary school to further my career. But between my school debt and the constant ramblings of my father saying “how are you going to pay for your schooling”, I made a spur of the moment decision and joined the Navy! Wrong or Right, I did find a new way to explore the world and everything worked out in the long run. With this exploring I met my wife Lisa, the mother of our two boys, James {11} and Henry {6} and have been married now for nineteen wonderful years!

My job in the Navy, was the task of a parachute rigger which involved extreme attention to detail and this flowed over into my rod making, which my wife refers to as my own special obsessive disorder! I became aware of lure collecting and the FATC, after I retired in 2008. Collecting old fishing tackle became my hobby after meeting Mike Hall at the Ramona Flea Market and seeing my interest in old fishing tackle he informed me about the FATC and the great people involved in the club, from that moment on, I was hooked! After my second year in the club, my addiction became the Eger Bait Company and will continue as such, until I have completed the entire colors and lures that Eger made, some day in the future!

My favorite lure is the Eger #552 “Sargent Sea Diver” and was only cataloged in 1941 and came in seven color patterns always looking for more!
President: Mike Hall, 904-424-7071, flalake@aol.com
Vice President: Chuck Heddon, 407-862-7562, cheddon@mpinet.net
Secretary: Rick Vaughn, 941-223-8996, fishboy6500@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Bill Premaza, 504-913-4900, wpremaza@aol.com
Auction Chair: Mike Mais, 352-662-2868, mmais68569@embarqmail.com
Awards Committee: Rick Vaughn, 941-223-8996, fishboy6500@yahoo.com
And Paul Snider, 850-485-2111, paulsnider@cox.net
FATC Newsletter Editor: Jeff Windisman, 863-326-0757, jkwlure@tampabay.rr.com
2845 Berkley Rd Auburndale, Florida 33823
Membership Director: Johnny Garland, bagleyfanatic@gmail.com

DIRECTORS:
Dale Van De Voort, 863-205-1408, luredale@verizon.com [W]
Rick Vaughn, 941-223-8996, fishboy6500@yahoo.com [SW]
Jim Duncan, 651-575-7956, duncan694@aol.com [E]
Paul Snider, 850-458-2111, paulsnider@cox.net [NW]
Mike Mais, 352-622-2868, mmais68569@embarqmail.com [NE]
Butch Carey, 305-496-1873, butchcareykw@aol.com [SE]
Ron Gast, 407-496-7940, ron@luresnreels.com [Central]

{FATC AD RATES} EFFECTIVE 2018

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” $90.00 1x $215.00 3x
1/2-Page ads [Color] “horizontal” $200.00 1x $450.00 3x
1/2-Page ads [Color] “vertical” $300.00 1x $679.00 3x
Full Page ads [Black & White] “only content” $160.00 1x $380.00 3x

FLORIDA ANTIQUE TACKLE COLLECTORS, INC.
A NOT-FOR-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR ANGING 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 manufactures 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 three 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 the FATC. The FATC publishes a newsletter tri-annually and an 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 encourages 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 membership director listed above. For membership applications, visit our website at: www.fatc.net
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FLEMING ISLAND FATC SUMMER SHOW
June 21st & 22nd 2019
Fleming Island, Florida
Show Host: Jim Berglund
thetackleshackflorida@yahoo.com

WINTER HAVEN FATC FALL SHOW
October 3rd, 4th & 5th 2019
Winter Haven, Florida
Show Host: Jeff Windisman
jkwlure@tampabay.rr.com

DAYTONA BEACH INTERNATIONAL TACKLE SHOW
February 28th, 29th & March 1st 2020
Daytona Beach, Florida
Show Host: Mike Hall
Flalake@aol.com