

CRAPPIE NOW! *DIGITAL MAGAZINE*

fishhound
and more fishing news

Crappie.com

December 2019 - Issue #106



Destination: Southern Vermont - Fish All Night, Ski All Day

Crappie greats share a Garmin LiveScope demo on video

Old school crappie fishing without the high-tech electronics

Features

Destination: Southern Vermont - Fish All Night, Ski All Day....4

by Ken Perrotte

“Come to the Light” - Fish All Night, Ski All Day in Southern Vermont, Winter Playground



Old School Crappie Fishing.....10

by Kenneth L. Kieser

Not everyone has the money, or spends enough time on the water to justify the expense of electronics that, these days, can cost thousands of dollars. But they can, and do, still catch fish.



The Best Video Game on Ice....18

by John Phillips

A Southern boy escapes the heat to try his hand at crappie fishing on hard water.



Rogers Overcomes Rain/Wind to Win Grenada ACT....24

by Richard Simms

The American Crappie Trail event scheduled in the Spring on Mississippi's Lake Grenada had to be postponed due to flooding.



CUSA Tournament Winners Adapt to Changing Conditions....28

by Ron Presley

Changing weather at Old Hickory Lake at Gallatin, TN proved to be a challenge for crappie anglers competing at the 2019 Crappie USA Classic.



Departments

Vern's Cooking & Tidbits....36

Crappie Calendar....41

Tournament Results....38

Crappie Clubs....42

PUBLISHER

Dan Dannenmueller

EDITOR

Richard Simms

SENIOR WRITER

Tim Huffman

WRITERS

Vic Attardo

Darl Black

John Felsher

Brent Frazee

Kenneth Kieser

Gary Lewis

Scott Mackenthun

Ed Mashburn

Greg McCain

Ken Perrotte

John Phillips

Ron Presley

Vernon Summerlin

Larry Whiteley

Ron Wong

LAYOUT

Eric Lambert

Contact us at:

info@crappienow.com

Crappie NOW is a publication of KMS-Inc.

No portions may be reproduced without written permission.

© Copyright 2019

Opening Cast

Happy Birthday to me. December 1 is my birthday. I'm officially on Medicare now. Ugh!

In 65 years, I have been on an untold number of fishing trips. Thousands and thousands of my own and hundreds of others with other anglers or guides for a huge variety of species.

However, an October excursion with B'n'M pros Ronnie Capps and Steve Coleman was, without a doubt, one of the most educational few hours I've ever spent in a boat.

I have been inundated with social media posts and news releases about Garmin's Panoptix LiveScope, the latest rage in electronics. It hit the market in 2018 when it won the ICAST Best of Show and Best Electronics awards. It has just become a standard accessory on many boats in 2019, but mainly with professional anglers. It does not come cheap and it is just slowly making its way into the recreational market.

I had never seen Garmin's LiveScope in action personally until hanging out with Capps and Coleman as they practiced for the 2019 American Crappie Trail tournament on Lake Grenada (see the story and an additional "How to" video in this issue of CrappieNOW!).

To say I was impressed would be a huge understatement. It was very clear why LiveScope has, and will continue, to change fishing – especially crappie fishing – from now on. Professional crappie anglers no longer fish for crappie, randomly seeking out structure in hopes it will hold big slabs.

Now they literally hunt directly for the slabs with a live visual image that allows them to see the fish and actually pursue an individual fish – or schools of fish – to properly present a lure. Capps and Coleman admit that they were late to the party. Now that they are there, they also admit they have had to completely reinvent how they have been fishing for decades. But they say they will never go back.

I understand why and rest-assured, this guide and angler is already making plans to dig into his wallet and join the Garmin LiveScope party.

Who knows? Maybe it will be my Birthday present to myself.

Richard Simms, Editor

"The outdoors is not a place, it's a state of mind."



Cover Photo:
Ken Perrotte provides this eerie, yet compelling look at the results of a successful nighttime "hard water" crappie excursion in Vermont. Read all about it this month's "Destination" story.
(Photo: Ken Perrotte)

Destination: Southern Vermont: Fish All Night, Ski All Day

by Ken Perrotte

The Green Mountain State has great snow skiing, but anglers can ski across the ice for nighttime crappie as well.



“Come to the light,” James Vladyka eerily called out as he yanked yet another crappie from the circular hole in the 10-inch-thick ice beneath his feet. Delivering that line from the old movie “Poltergeist” seemed appropriate. Between the emerald-green glow emanating from the Hydro Glow Fishing Lights positioned just below the ice and the frantic, colorful

Doug Chyz, from Stafford County, Virginia, heads across the ice covering Vermont’s Lake Champlain in preparation for a night of fun, catching crappie through the ice. (Photo: Ken Perrotte)

display of the Vexilar flashers resting adjacent to the holes, the humans topside



of the hardwater were fully bathed in a surreal aura.

Vladyka, a licensed captain and owner of Fish Hounds Outdoors in Benson, Vermont, proved adept at coaxing crappie to the “other side.”

The scene was Lake Champlain’s Lapham Bay in mid-February. The 120-mile-long Lake Champlain and some larger Vermont ponds are increasingly popular as a year-round crappie fishery. Vladyka was one of the first guides in Vermont to take anglers ice fishing for crappie.

“We are blessed with some very good crappie fishing on my end of Lake Champlain.” ~ Capt. James Vladyka

Ice fishing can be comfortable and laidback when done from the confines of a portable shelter. Doug Chyz (right) jokes that the crappie he caught may not be the biggest, but will likely be the tastiest. (Photo: Ken Perrotte)

“I’ve been fishing for crappie though the ice since I was a kid but guiding since 2000. We run trips from December to March,” Vladyka said. “We are blessed with some very good crappie fishing on my end of Lake Champlain (southern). We have both white and black crappie in just about all of our lakes and our ponds have black crappie.”

Many people associate warmer, southern states with big crappie, but Vermont is no slouch when it comes to slabs. The state record crappie is 3.85 pounds, caught in Lake Hortonia. While winter crappie can





be a little finicky and nomadic, Vladyka said late winter is a good time to find chunky fish.

“The larger crappie come in the basins, feeding as the ice is about to go out March and April. The bigger ones stage up on the weed edges and drops, but they can be found in all depths throughout the season depending on lakes and food,” Vladyka said.

He said water in the lake starts to turn over around mid-February. The bite becomes tough and that becomes a favored time for night fishing with the hydro glow lights. In theory, the lights attract baitfish which attract bigger fish. In reality, it works.

Bait selection varies. Many locals love minnows and Vladyka likes fishing deeper basins with a Clam rattlin’ blade spoon or a leech flutter spoon tipped with a fathead minnow. In shallower water, he likes Clam’s drop jig tipped with a Maki Plastic offering.

A flasher unit is almost always part of

Capt. James Vladyka, guide for Fish Hounds Outdoors, knows how to catch Vermont slab crappie through the ice. (Contributed Photo)

the toolkit, giving an angler skilled in its use real-time information about what their lure is doing and how fish are reacting. Learning how to read it takes practice. Vladyka was teasing plump crappie into biting just three feet away from me while I kept missing bites. It is a unique form of finesse fishing.

Family Fun – On and Off the Ice

Anglers inexperienced with ice fishing can benefit from hiring a guide or tagging along with someone skilled at understanding ice safety and where to drill the best holes. Plus, guides will have the needed equipment.

The Green Mountain State celebrates



itself as a winter playground, loaded with options for family fun. An ice fishing expedition offers ample side excursions.

Vladyka said his clients love winter visits, noting, “We’ve got a ton of awesome local microbreweries and some amazing skiing.”

Ice fishing can be as relaxed or diehard as you want to make it. Relax while jigging in the warmth of a pop-up shelter or go whole hog and set up a full complement of the authorized 15 tip-up rigs. Tip-ups are especially popular when targeting larger species, such as northern pike. Depending on ice conditions, people can take breaks to skate or tool around on snow machines or ATVs.

Vermont is renowned for its ski resorts. Killington, the East Coast’s largest ski area is only about an hour away from southern Lake Champlain. It has more than 200 trails, geared toward skiers and snowboarders

Glow sticks positioned below the ice create a surreal scene for anglers gathered above the “hard water.” (Photo: Ken Perrotte)

of all skill levels. One beginner’s trail is a leisurely six miles long.

Bromley Mountain and Okemo Mountain Resort, both touted for family-friendly activities, are also in close proximity. Even the storied village of Stowe with all of its winter splendor is just two hours up the road in the heart of the Green Mountains.

Vermont’s quaint mountain towns and larger cities -- although larger is a matter of scale since Burlington, Vermont’s biggest city, has just 42,000 people -- have an abundance of hotels and inns. Staff can point you to many quintessential New England winter experiences.

In years with good snow, many inns and





farms offer traditional horse-drawn sleigh rides. Bigger resorts often list snowmobile touring in their repertoire. Visits in March and April, as the ice is “going out,” can coincide with the advent of maple sugaring season. Sap starts flowing and sugarhouses statewide transform the sweet nectar into a variety of tasty syrups and candies.

Between the superb ice fishing and bountiful snow-based experiences, it is easy to see why Vermont is easily defined as a “winter wonderland.”

Learn more about Vladyka’s guide service here. Go here for other guides and charters. Or visit Vermont’s official tourism web site.

(Ken Perrotte is an award-winning writer and photographer, with more than 2,000 published articles. Articles have appeared in USA Today Hunt & Fish magazine,

Killington, the East Coast’s largest ski resort, offers family fun just an hour away from prime fishing locations. Visitors can snowboard, go alpine and cross-country skiing, snowtubing and more. (Photo courtesy Killington Resort)

Safari, Outdoor Life, the Military Times Media Group’s publications, Recoil, Blue Ridge Country, North American Hunter, Virginia Wildlife, Turkey Country, Ducks Unlimited, the Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star, Mule Deer, Whitetails Unlimited, and more. He is an active member of the Professional Outdoor Media Association, Southeastern Outdoors Press Association and current Vice-President of the Great Lakes Outdoors Writers. Visit his website, The Outdoors Rambler.)



- Ken Perrotte

ROAD RUNNER[®]
 by BLAKEMORE
 SLOW PRESENTATION + FLASH + VIBRATION = MORE FISH!

Eye Hole
 SCENT HOLDER JIG

THE OR12 IS USED BY MORE CHAMPIONSHIP CRAPPIE ANGLERS THAN ANY OTHER BOARD!

Shown with optional OR12PEK Tackle Flag Kit

OFF SHORE TACKLE
 SIDE-PLANK
 LPT

YouTube f Twitter

www.offshoretackle.com

ODU MAGAZINE[™]

Join ODU Monthly, For Our **FREE** 100% Digital Fishing Magazine.

Bass, Walleye, Panfish, Pike, Trout, Muskie, Catfish, Redfish, Stripers and More Are Covered Throughout The Year.

www.odumagazine.com

MONSTER CRAPPIE
 think **BIG!**

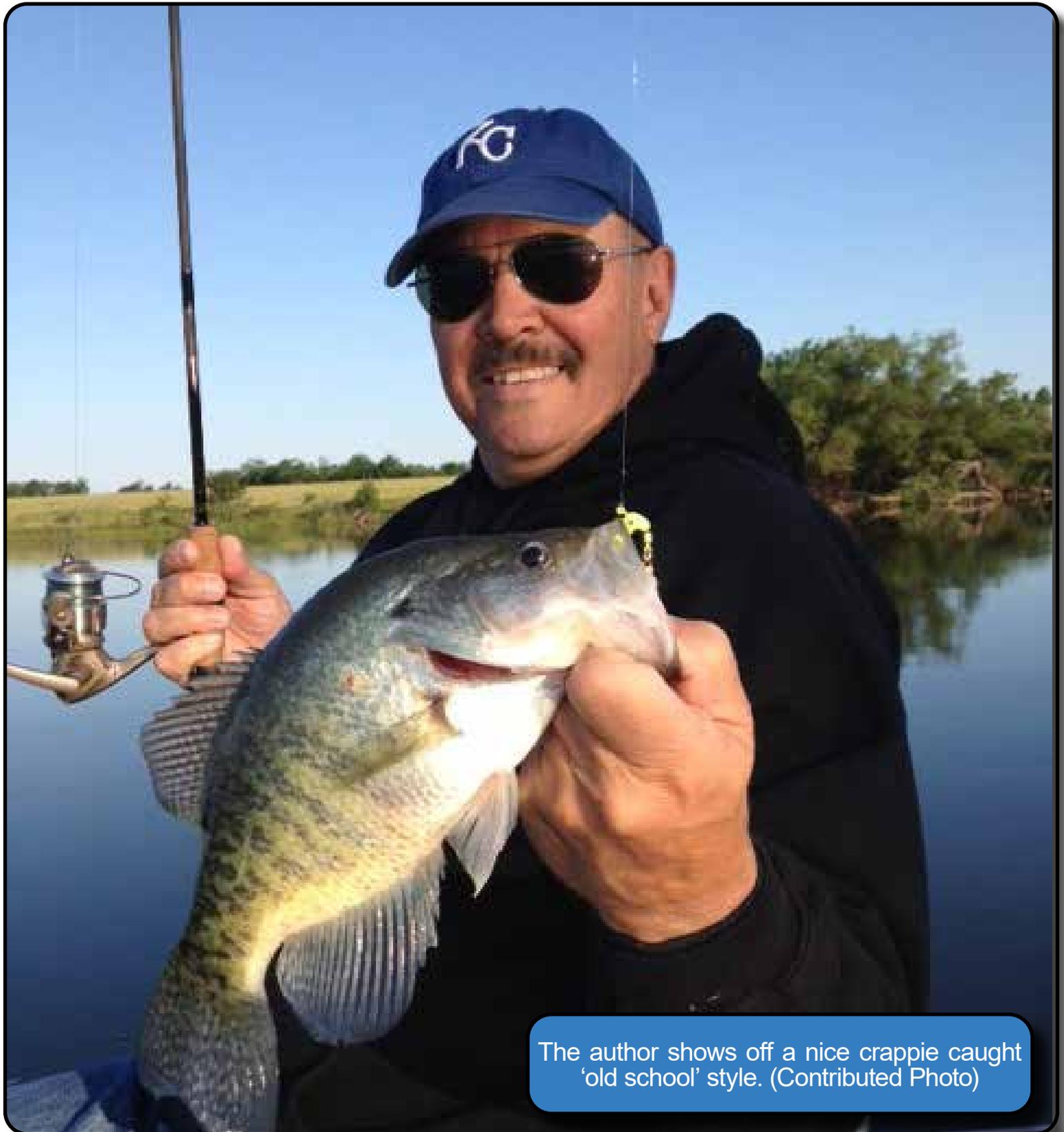
Bass Pro Shops

Charlie Brewer's
Slider
 Company
www.sliderfishing.com

Old School Crappie Fishing

by *Kenneth L. Kieser*

Sometimes experience on the water and a little common sense will work better than high-tech electronics



The author shows off a nice crappie caught 'old school' style. (Contributed Photo)



A recent report claimed high-tech fishing electronics could eventually hurt fish populations. The writer suggested fish no longer have a chance. Too many larger crappie are being removed from lakes, eventually eliminating good fishing possibilities.

Every angler knows we didn't always have fancy electronics and the early versions were not impressive compared to today's technology.

I met Darrell J. Lowrance, former President and CEO of Lowrance Electronics, at a Las Vegas American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association meeting in the late 1970's. He showed me the latest device called a "Fish Finder" with a gray screen and blips that were said to be brush, fish, etc.

I walked away unconvinced. I should have tried to buy stock in this amazing company, but old school thinking set me back because I had

In days gone by, before high-tech electronics, anglers depended on experience and a little common sense to find crappie. It still works.
(Photo: Kenneth L. Keiser)

been taught how to catch crappie by some of the best in my area. I couldn't imagine how electronics could make crappie fishing any better. Obviously, they have.

But not everyone has the money, or spends enough time on the water to justify the expense of electronics that, these days, can cost thousands of dollars. But they can, and do, still catch fish.

An old man told me many years before I met Mr. Lowrance, "Give crappie a place to go and they will go there," the exact mentality of most early crappie anglers. He built beds and





provided crappie many places to try and hide or gather, some kept secret. I doubt anyone caught more in those days; knowing exactly when and where to go meant catching a limit.

Before electronics, post-spawn crappie fishing relied on common sense. Targeted areas were submerged brush, trees and certain boat docks. Granted many fish were missed while finding schools, but many were caught.

The Countdown Approach

The late J.A. Robinson taught me a post-spawn lesson one hot summer day. We anchored over known crappie beds and used a count-down approach. This meant dropping our jigs or minnows to the bottom and slowly retrieving one reel turn per minute or two.

Each reel turn was counted. A bite at a certain number of reel turns signaled returning our bait to the bottom, then reeling up that

Visible brush and submerged trees were once keys to finding crappie. But not all submerged trees are created equally. Anglers once would mark certain trees that proved to be the most productive.

(Photo: Kenneth L. Kieser)

many turns to hopefully find a suspended school. More reel turns were tried until the bites stopped, then we moved to a different bed.

Triangulate

Paper topographical maps were available back then and the best showed structure, especially submerged creek beds. Many of these maps showed various visible objects on the shore like roads, bridges or anything to identify lake locations.

In the old days the better anglers knew how to “triangulate.” They would find a sweet spot on a road bed, and underwater bridge crossing or a brush pile. They didn’t have a fancy depth finder with mapping to mark an electronic waypoint. Instead they looked for tall trees, buildings or some other landmarks on the shoreline. They would line up two tall trees and then at a 90-degree angle, line up two other landmarks and they could return to the exact spot time after time with no electronics involved.

High-tech electronics are great, but remembering, and using, the old school ways will still help you put more crappie in the livewell.

Drift Fishing

In some cases, rather than fishing specific spots, anglers routinely used a controlled drift was used to find crappie. This meant finding current or setting up your boat based on wind direction and then letting the boat go with the flow or wind.

Jigs, some tipped with minnows or various types of worms or euro larvae were used to entice bites. When a bite came, buoys were dropped and the area fished to locate the school. The aforementioned countdown method was often used to determine depth of fish.

Fish the Bridges

Bridges and known underwater structures were fished in post spawn, often with excellent good success. Larger lakes with any current tend to have submerged brush caught on bridge pillars. For example, high water from spring flooding tends to move brush—and crappie love brush.

Early fishermen learned that post-spawn crappies suspended around bridge pillars for several reasons such as plankton, baitfish,

insect larvae, crawfish, fish eggs and even tiny bits of dead animal matter. Brush or any debris caught on a bridge pillar creates an eco-system of food for various creatures including fish while allowing adequate cover and depth for hiding. Find a productive pillar and you will catch crappie and almost anything imaginable. (See this month’s CrappieNOW! “How to” Video: Bridge Overpasses)

Deep Water Docks

Docks over deep water are another source for finding post-spawn crappie. Many dock owners drop big bundles of Christmas trees to the bottom, generally weighted down by concrete blocks and catch crappie throughout the year.

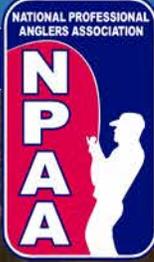
Dock owners would occasionally become angry at us anchoring besides their docks and catching “their fish.” One kept a bucket of rocks to throw and frighten fish before we caught them. So, being kids, we snuck back in after dark when the dock owner was asleep and caught “his” crappie.

Finally, lakes with standing timber are always key spots, if you determine which trees. Finding trees crappie frequented took hours, sometimes days. Anglers took notes of productive trees, mostly located in deeper water. Some trees were marked with metal tabs.

The point is, we caught limits of crappie long before electronics existed. While we were excited with the modern improvements, we didn’t forget our old school techniques. I believe that anglers have an advantage now with electronics pointing the way. But remembering, and using, the old school ways will still help you put more crappie in the livewell.

(Kenneth L. Kieser has been the Outdoor columnist for the Independence/Blue Springs (Missouri) Examiner since 1987. He has been a freelance writer for more than a dozen hunting and fishing magazines; hundreds of credits in various outdoor magazines with a laundry list of awards to his credit.)

 - Kenneth L. Kieser



Our mission is to increase the professionalism – and the earnings – of our members as we work with the industry to grow and protect sportfishing.

NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

Our mission is to increase the professionalism of our members as we work to grow and protect sportfishing.

Go Fishing With The B'n'M Pros.



Sam Heaton's 7-Foot Super-Sensitive

The SHSS72n is a spinning rod with the same sensitivity and feel of the jig pole series. Improvements include Dyna-Flo guides for smooth line retrieval, and a cork knob handle for outstanding balance and feel. Historically one of the most popular rods on the water, the SHSS72n is still supple, strong and sensitive.



Whitey Outlaw DOUBLE DUTY

Get back to "Fishing The Basics" with Whitey Outlaw. This Medium-Action rod is for big heavy hybrid bream, monster shellcrackers & any size crappie. It's perfectly balanced with a comfortable foam handle for all-day fishing - no reel needed! It features a tough & lightweight Graphite Blank, and one tip eyelet, with one reinforced Tie Down Guide.





300+ Crappie Fishing Tips

featuring
Travis & Charles
Bunting

by Tim Huffman

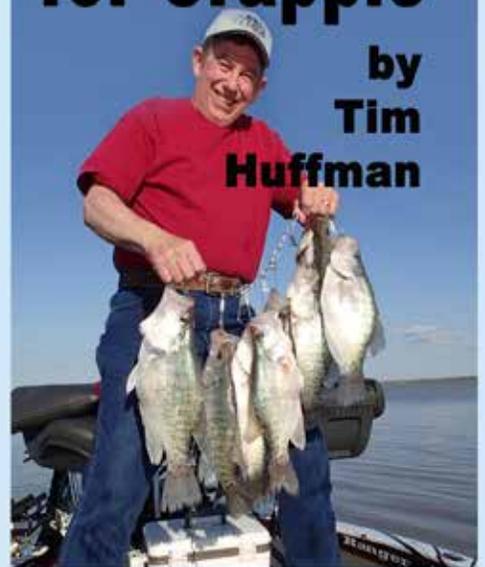
Two New Books

Limiting Out for
Crappie includes
a variety of fishing
tactics, techniques
and tidbits

300+ Crappie
Fishing Tips
features 3-time
classic champs
Charles & Travis
Bunting

Limiting Out for Crappie

by
Tim
Huffman



Available from Amazon in Kindle or paperback. \$3.99/ \$12.99
Paperback available from Grizzly Jig Co 800-305-9866

Learn 2 Fish With Us, Inc. is a not-for-profit company (501C3 organization) that was started in 2006 by Greg Karch, founder and certified Angler Educator and Instructor.



Learn 2 Fish With Us

Growing the sport of fishing by educating and inspiring beginner and experienced anglers.



Crappie Basics #201

Consider Slime Line

Like most anglers, professional crappie anglers Ronnie Capps and Steve Coleman say lighter line usually results in more bites. But, of course, the concern is breaking off a big fish on light line. Capps helped develop [Slime Line Champion Edition](#) with “super stretch” capability. Capps demonstrated how even short lengths of Slime Line will stretch like a rubber band, allowing them to use smaller line sizes without as much concern about breaking off big crappie, critically important when netting or swinging fish in the boat.



2019
Crappie USA

Tournament Trail Schedule

Crappie USA

220 Mohawk Ave
Louisville KY 40209

502-384-5924



2019 Crappie USA Classic
Old Hickory Lake, Gallatin, TN 10/23 – 10/26/19

Barkley/Kentucky Lakes, Kuttawa, KY
2019 Super Event 11/02 – 11/03/18

www.crappieusa.com

The Best Video Game on Ice

by John Phillips

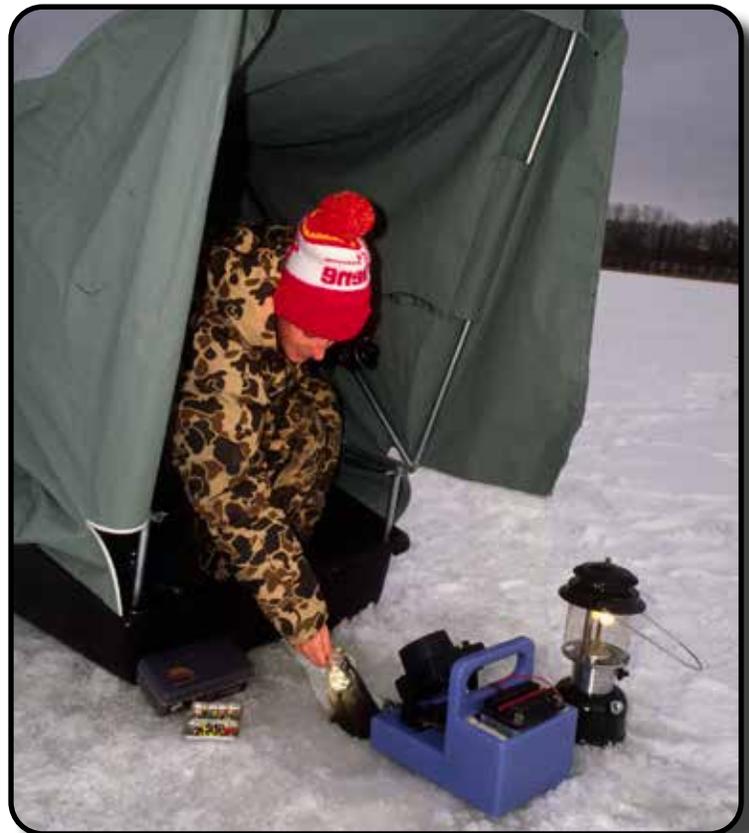
A Southern boy's perspective on fishing Minnesota's 'hard water'

Because not much ice fishing exists in my hometown of Birmingham, Alabama - where we had 95-plus degree temperatures this past October - I was eager to try that sport. The first time I went to Iowa - many, many years ago - I sat all day on a 5-gallon bucket and jigged a little ice fly through a hole for fish I couldn't see. I was bored to tears.

However, when I went on a later ice fishing excursion to [Lake Mille Lacs](#) in Minnesota in the middle of the winter, I gained a new respect for the fun found in fishing hard water. My new-found enthusiasm came from fishing a day with Dave Genz, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who has preached the gospel of ice fishing for more than 30 years and who completely revolutionized ice fishing for me.

When I talked with Dave recently, he told me, "After fishing on the ice for several decades, I decided a better way to catch panfish like bluegills and crappie through the ice had to exist. In the summertime, I could move all around the lake in my boat and go from spot to spot finding fish. However, in the winter months, I was stuck in one place in an icehouse."

Because of his discontent, Genz developed his Winter Fishing System that includes a portable icehouse, the [Fish Trap](#), that is available in one, two or three-person models and has plenty of dry storage for your gear, including a heater, rods, reels and a seat - all on a molded polyethylene sled base that makes moving easy, after you flip the top

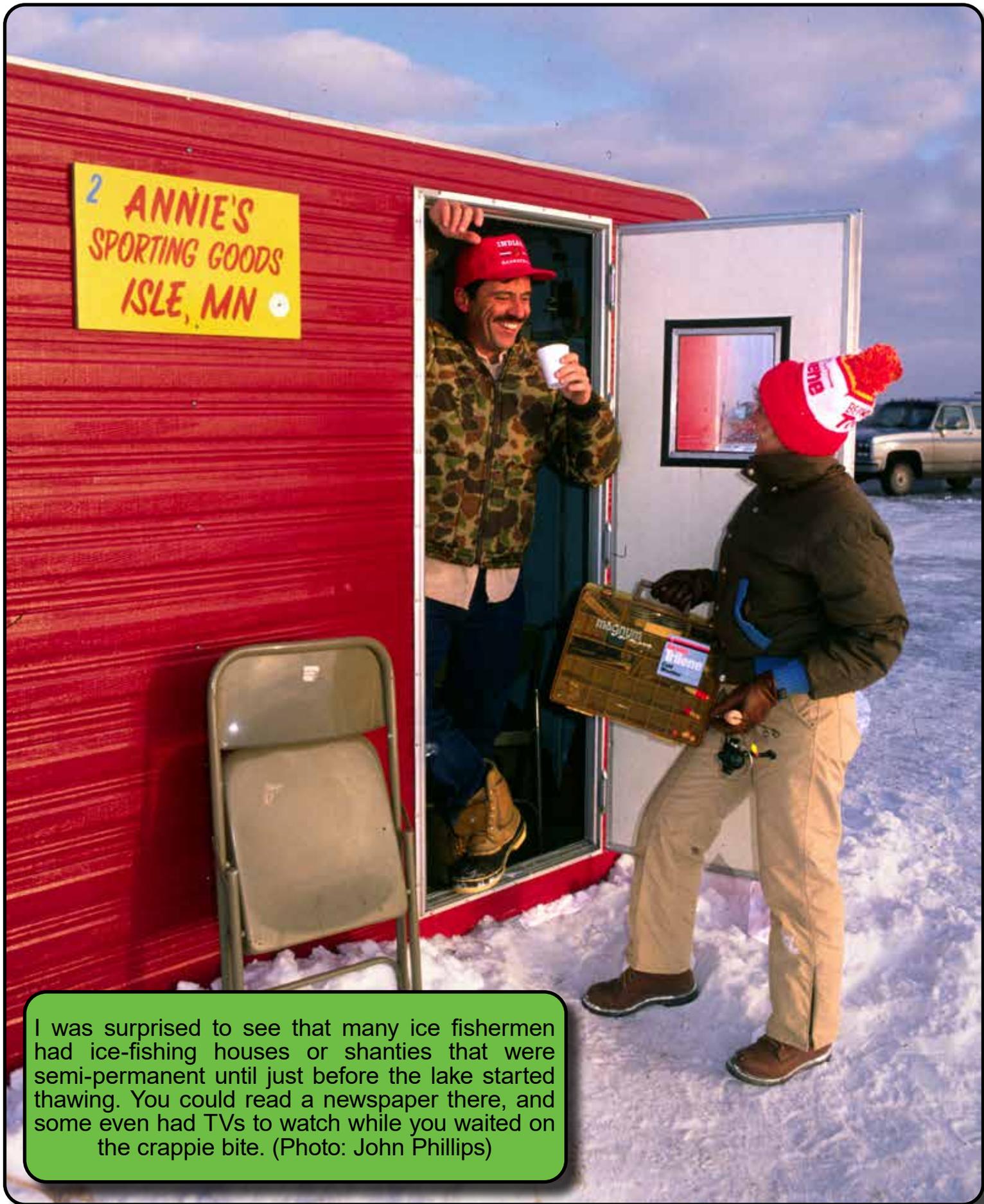


Using the original Fish Trap, pictured here, Genz showed me how to be portable while remaining warm and comfortable and enjoying ice fishing more than when I sat on a bucket outdoors, shivering and hoping to catch a fish through the ice.

(Photo: John Phillips)

down and grab the tow rope.

Genz prefers a [Verilux](#) FLX-28 flasher, which provides instant feedback as a fish reacts to your presentation and features



I was surprised to see that many ice fishermen had ice-fishing houses or shanties that were semi-permanent until just before the lake started thawing. You could read a newspaper there, and some even had TVs to watch while you waited on the crappie bite. (Photo: John Phillips)





When I met Dave Genz, pictured here, he showed me a much-more effective, sophisticated and fun way to catch crappie through the ice using electronics and newer and better ice-fishing gear.
(Photo: John Phillips)

two zoom zones, five colors to select from for maximum visibility, 5-foot depth range adjustments and night display brightness settings, as well as options for fishing in super-shallow water and weeds. After Genz drills a number of holes in the ice, then he moves the Fish Trap from hole to hole, until he finds crappie with his flasher. Today Genz fishes with the Dave Genz Ice Fishing Combos from Clam Outdoors, a balanced rod and reel combo with a lightweight design, a cork handle and five guides.

What amazed me most when I fished with Dave was that I could observe a 1/32-ounce ice fly – what we fished with

“After fishing on the ice for several decades, I decided a better way to catch panfish like bluegills and crappie through the ice had to exist.” ~ Dave Genz, Minneapolis, Minnesota

then - fall from the surface of the water to a depth of 33 feet on the flasher. Not only could I see the ice fly on the screen of the flasher, but I also could watch the fish move in to take the bait. I had my own video game inside my icehouse.

If I saw a little crappie coming toward my bait, I could move my ice fly away from the small fish and either up or down to where a bigger crappie could take the lure. If I spotted a crappie moving toward my bait and saw the line on the flasher representing the fish overlap the line that was my ice fly, I knew the crappie had taken the bait, and I should set the hook. From watching the flasher, I could see a strike on the flasher before I ever felt the bite on my line.

Something else I learned from the flasher was I could determine whether the fish were in an aggressive or non-feeding mode. An active crappie would follow my ice fly or jig up toward the surface to attack, but an inactive fish would not move more than a foot or two to take the bait. When I saw that the crappie were inactive on the flasher, I'd put my ice fly tipped with a Eurolarva (a maggot) in front of the fish and shake the bait until the fish hit.

The flasher was more like a video game than the machines found at an arcade. Dave Genz's style of ice fishing taught me plenty about how crappie feed and move too under the ice. With this type of video game, instead of bells and whistles going off when you win, you get to bring a fat crappie to the surface to take home to supper. I may be from the South, but I've learned how to enjoy and appreciate the fun and the adventure of northern ice fishing, Dave Genz style.



Fresh Water Hall of Fame. He has written more than 6,000 magazine articles and served as Outdoor Editor for the Birmingham Post-Herald for 24 years. Phillips is a founding member of the Professional Outdoor Media Association and an active member of the Southeastern Outdoors Press Association. The author of more than 100 books, you can learn more from his book, ["Crappie: How to Catch Them Fall and Winter."](#))

 - John Phillips



One of the advantages Dave Genz has is he can drill holes in the ice with his ice auger, and then when the crappie stop biting in one hole, he can quickly and easily move to another hole where the crappie may be more active. (Photo: John Phillips)

Learn more about ice fishing at <http://davegenz.com/>.

See the five best ice-fishing flashers and their features GlobeSurfer.com.

Learn more about ice fishing rods, reels and lines by searching on the Internet. Many well-known companies, including [Berkley](#), [Fenwick](#), [Shakespeare](#), [St. Croix](#), [Shimano](#) and others make these products.

(John Phillips holds an array of awards including the 2012 Homer Circle Fishing Award from the American Sportfishing Association and the 2007 Legendary Communicator inducted into the National

**If You're Not Using Driftmaster;
good luck!**



  **MADE IN USA**

**ROD HOLDERS &
TROLLING SYSTEMS**

BLACK RIVER TOOLS inc. 803-473-4927

CrappieNOW “How to” Video: Bridge Overpasses

Sometimes the sweetest spot to crappie fish on your local lake might be right over your head.

In fishing there is no such thing as “always” or “never.” Fish and fishing are as variable as the weather. But there is one location on many lakes that crappie anglers should always include in their potential fishing arsenal.

And the best thing about these locations is that they can pay off for crappie anglers whether you are fishing from a boat or from the bank.

CrappieNOW Editor Richard Simms explains why he never met a bridge overpass he didn't like.

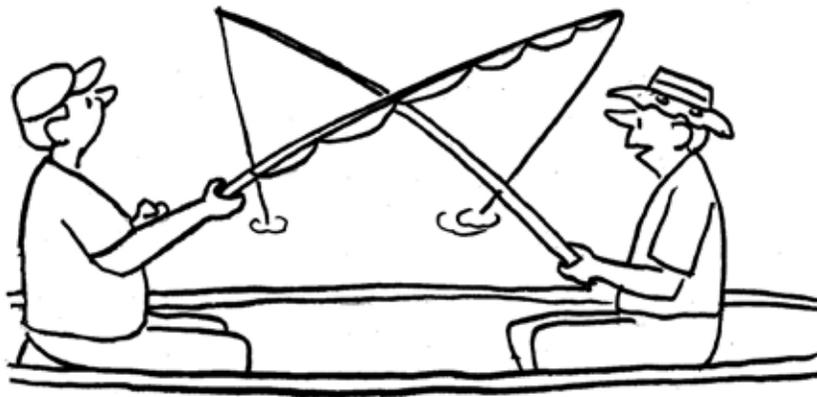


CRAPPIE NOW!
DIGITAL MAGAZINE

0:00 / 3:55

CC 360p

Fishing Funny's



RON MORGAN

"It's always easy to spot the luckiest fisherman."



Rogers Overcomes Rain/Wind to Win Grenada ACT

Matthew Rogers shared a unique secret that he said helped him win a \$25,000 boat in the ACT Lake Grenada tournament.



GRENADA, Miss. – The 2019 American Crappie Trail tournament on Lake Grenada was originally scheduled for May but massive flooding forced the tournament to be delayed until October 25-26. Matthew Rogers is probably happy about that.

The young man fought back tears in the winner's circle as he explained why this win was sweet redemption.

"I wanted to win an ACT really bad," explained Rogers. "I went to Kentucky and I made a mistake. I brought eight fish to the dock

Matthew Rogers' scored a huge string on Day Two – seven crappie that weighed 17.66 lbs. – launching him to the big win. (Photo courtesy ACT)

and didn't have my first day weight. To come back and do this, it's a dream come true."

Fishing by himself, Rogers found himself in 9th place with seven crappie weighing 13.54 lbs. after Day One. However, a huge string on



Day Two, weighing 17.66 lbs., catapulted the young man into first place. Rogers was only 0.7 lbs. ahead of 2nd Place anglers, Josh Reynolds and Josh Jones.

Anglers were forced to deal with heavy rains and high winds on both days of the tournament, a factor that may have hampered many anglers. Rogers, however, said he concentrated on working a very small area very methodically to find his big fish that AVERAGED 2.5 lbs. each on Day Two.

“To come back and do this, it’s a dream come true.” ~ Matthew Rogers, ACT Lake Grenada Winner

Rogers also shared another secret that he believed tipped the scales in his favor. He said that rather than using the standard of hooking his minnows through the lips to keep them alive, he was actually running the hook down into the minnow’s gullet and out the minnow’s side.

“When they short strike it they get the hook in their mouth,” explained Rogers. “That makes

(l-r) Steve Coleman and Ronnie Capps show off an impressive double taken on a practice day during the Lake Grenada October event. The pair ended in 14th place but hold on the very top position in the 2019 ACT Angler Team of the Year standings. (Photo: Richard Simms)

a huge difference.”

Rogers won a \$25,000 Ranger RT188C boat outfitted with an Evinrude 115 outboard for the win.

The overall Big Fish during the tournament weighed 2.96 lbs. and was caught by Daniel Porter and Jeremy Aldridge. The pair came in 5th in the tournament with a total payout of \$4,985.

Ronnie Capps and Steve Coleman came in 14th in the October tournament however the pair held onto the overall lead in the 2019 ACT Angler Team of the Year standings.

Watch the entire [Final Weigh-in Video here.](#)

The next ACT event will be the 2019 National Championship on Mississippi’s Sardis Lake March 26-28, 2020.

 - Richard Simms

2019 AMERICAN CRAPPIE TRAIL



**PROVIDER OF PREMIER CRAPPIE
TOURNAMENTS WITH THE HIGHEST
GUARANTEED PAYOUT IN THE INDUSTRY.**

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2019 Championship Sardis, MS - March 26-28, 2020

Lake Guntersville, AL	April 24-25, 2020
Grenada, MS	May 15-16, 2020
KY Lake, TN	June 19-20, 2020
Ouachita River, LA	August 28-29, 2020
Ross Barnett, MS	October 23-24, 2020
2020 Championship	TBD Spring 2021

americancrappietrail.com

BABY SHAD

SPEAR TAIL

SPLIT TAIL



SWIM TAIL

JIGHEADS

ACCESSORIES



Bobby Garland Crappie Baits

THE LEADER IN CRAPPIE PRODUCTS INNOVATION

We manufacture our baits with made-in-America pride using the finest soft-plastic injection molding equipment in the industry. With Bobby Garland a good day of fishing is in the bag.

**1.25" Itty Bitty Baits
with a Great Big Ego**

NEW! Itty Bit Slab Slay'R & Swim'R



[VIEW ITTY BIT SLAB SLAY'R >](#)

**Making it Easy
to Bow-and-Arrow Style**

NEW! Dock Shoot'R Pull Tabs



[VIEW DOCK SHOOT'R PULL TABS >](#)

**We Produce Crappie
Fishing's Finest Jigheads**

NEW! Crappie Pro Series



[VIEW CRAPPIE PRO JIGHEADS >](#)

Crappie Basics #202

Stay Safe on the Ice

You will find some great ice fishing tips in this edition of CrappieNOW!. But the most important thing about ice fishing is KNOWING WHEN IT IS SAFE! The experts say you should never venture onto the ice until it is at least four inches thick. And always be aware if there might be flowing water underneath the ice that will create thin spots. Experts say five inches of ice will support most snowmobiles or ATV's but never drive a car or truck onto the ice until it is a minimum of eight inches thick, preferably more. These guidelines are for new, clear solid ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe. Double the above thickness guidelines when traveling on white ice to ensure ice safety. Learn more at TakeMeFishing.org.



CUSA Tournament Winners Adapt to Changing Conditions

by Ron Presley

Koesters and Hengstler Claim Pro Division Victory at CUSA Classic while Shawn Salyers and Josh Lovett take the amateur side.

Forget the competing anglers - Mother Nature was the worst adversary at the 2019 Crappie USA Classic on Old Hickory Lake. The Gallatin, Tenn. event challenged crappie anglers who found perfect prefishing conditions change to inclement weather for both tournament days.

A total of 129 boats fished the Old Hickory event - 52 in the Pro Division and 77 in the Amateur Division. A total of \$127,000 was distributed to the winners.

Nice weather prevailed up to tournament day when anglers faced drizzling rain right through the weigh-in. Day two was similar but added high winds to challenge the anglers even more.

The crappie population on Old Hickory includes blacks, whites, and even a few black-nose crappie. Those anglers that found the new pattern following the onset of bad weather turned what could have been a disaster into a time for celebration.

Pro Division - First Place

Jason Koesters and Jake Hengstler traveled from Ohio to claim victory in the Pro Division. They brought a 19.75-pound bag to the scales over the 2-day event. Their 1st place finish earned them a fully-rigged Ranger 518 boat valued at more than \$49,000. They added second Big Fish of the tournament for \$1,000, the B'n'M Poles Bonus of \$500, the Driftmaster Bonus of \$300, and the Jenko Bonus of \$100.

Koesters and Hengstler found five weigh-in fish under one dock on the first day but had to fish multiple docks to find the ones holding big

"...black crappies were very shallow."

fish to finish their limit.

"On day one we started off shooting docks," said Koesters. "We caught a few good fish over 1.2 pounds. Jake switched to a cork and jig around the docks and landed a 1.88-pound kicker early on day one. After that, we moved to our brush spot in shallow water and caught a 1.98-kicker fish swimming a 1/32-ounce jig in three feet of water. The big black crappies were very shallow. On day two we caught a few fish shooting [docks] but our main crappie came shallow on a cork and jig or shiner."

"We shot a lot of docks," confirmed Hengstler. "We were using Southern Pro Hot Grubs in yellow/white and Southern Pro Stinger Shads. We found some of our biggest fish very shallow swimming jigs over submerged brush in three feet of water. We were very lucky that we didn't have to share water with other teams."

Amateur Division—First Place

The competition was very close in the Amateur Division. The first-place team of Shawn Salyers and Josh Lovett finished less than a pound in front of a three-way tie for second place.

Salyers and Lovett brought a two-day total weight of 18.29 pounds to the scales to claim the first-place spot. They were awarded a Ranger 188 boat package for their two-days of soaking minnows in 14-17 feet of water.

The Murray, Kentucky team fished Spencer



Creek on both tournament days using Jenko double Minnow rigs over brush piles. They reported that the Blue Monkey color worked best for them.

“Friday morning, we started spider rigging in the back of Spencer Creek,” said Salyars. “We were using the Garmin Live Scope and pushing minnows on Jenko 14 foot-Slab City rods rigged with Jenko 3/8-ounce double minnow rigs. We would push up in the brush piles and let them sit. That method got us into second place on day one with more than 10 pounds.”

Saturday morning found the Kentucky duo doing the same thing. It soon became obvious to them that the weather change had affected the bite. They were not doing nearly as well as they had on day one. They decided to change tactics.

“We put up the spider rig,” Salyars said. “And got out the Jenko 11-foot HyperSense single rods and started single poling the brush piles with Jenko 1/16-ounce pink Slasher jigsheads. We used the new blue monkey and

Koesters and Hengstler earned a fully rigged Ranger 518 boat and some nice hardware for their first-place finish in the Pro Division. (Photo: Ron Presley)

juice colored Jenko Paddle Fry baits. That combination produced our day-two weight of 8.27.”

Their change of strategy on day two was sufficient to give them the win.

Bragging Rights

Big Fish honors went to the team of Neal Alvis and Scott Bunch. They finished the Amateur Division in fifth place with a bag of 16.70 pounds that included a 2.05-pound fish. They caught the big slab on day one and it held up as Big Fish of the tournament.

“We single-poled brush on Friday, reported Bunch. “We covered a lot of water fishing from the dam all the way to Camp Station Creek. Neal caught the big fish in 18 foot of





water on a Slab Magnet by Crappie Magnet in blue/chartreuse color—the mermaid color. On Saturday we single-poled brush for our bigger fish using B'n'M rods with the original Crappie Magnet. Black/chartreuse/white and chartreuse/pumpkin pie were our favorite colors for this tournament.”

Other Awards

Highlighting the Thursday night captains meeting/awards dinner was the presentation of the points race winners. Kris and Terry Mann, from Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, completed a three-peat the previous week at the CUSA makeup tournament on Weiss Lake. The father/son team won the Weiss event to secure their third straight Angler Team of the Year award.

The Sportsman of the Year Award went to Tim Harris and John Hicks. They also amassed the most points on the year to earn the Overall

Salyers and Lovett squeaked out a win in the Amateur Division. They were less than a pound in front of a three-way tie for second place. (Photo: Ron Presley)

High Point Team of the year recognition.

Youth angler Zach Moore from Somerset, Kentucky received the Crappie USA Tournament Trail Junior Angler of the Year Award.

Pro Division anglers Tony and Ling Grooms earned the Top Male/Female Team honors.

Final Thoughts

With less than a pound separating them, the first four places in the Amateur Division demonstrated just how close the competition was with the change of weather. Many anglers expected spider rigging to be the strategy



Neal Alvis was fishing with Scott Bunch when he put the 2.05-pound fish in the boat that claimed Big Fish honors on Old Hickory Lake. (Photo: Ron Presley)

of choice but the weather changed and the crappies headed for cover. Anglers who picked up on the change in crappie behavior and made adjustments to their fishing strategy were rewarded. Those that continued their multiple rod strategy did not do as well. The winning combination was one pole in hand near structure.

 - Ron Presley

Crappie USA National Championship - Top 10 Pro Division

- 1st Place - Jason Koesters and Jake Hengstler
- 2nd Place - Randy Pope and Steven Deitz
- 3rd Place - Harold Maddux and Brian Oldham
- 4th Place - Steve Deason and Rick Howard
- 5th Place - Alvis Neal and Scott Bunch
- 6th Place - Steve Hess & Dan Lutchka
- 7th Place - Johnny Walker
- 8th Place -- John Hendrix & Kevin Randall
- 9th Place - Billy Grisard & Matt Grisham
- 10th Place - Michael Tinsley & Tim Gill

Crappie USA National Championship - Top 10 Amateur Division

- 1st Place - Shawn Salyers and Josh Lovett
- 2nd Place - Dewayne McCord and Eddie Feagin
- 2nd Place - Glenn Ward and Donnie Miller
- 2th Place - Dominic Dugic and Jeffery Lee
- 5th Place - Stephen Crepps and Chad Crepps
- 6th Place - Forrest & Jacob Walker
- 7th Place - Ryan Kennedy & Scott Sipe
- 8th Place - Lance & Jeff Harrington
- 9th Place - Eric Korseley & Will Rogers
- 10th Place - Ricky Baker & David Gibson



In the Spotlight

David
Shandes

Ed
Moes



by Tim Huffman

With 50,000 registered users, Crappie.com is a “go to” location for crappie fishermen all across the country.

Established in 1996, one of the earliest online places for fishermen to read about crappie fishing was the Internet Forum called crappie.com. The site’s popularity makes it a go-to spot for people wanting to ask questions, read about what’s going on with other crappie fishermen and to get state-specific information. The fact that the site has grown every one of its 23 years is a great testimony to its popularity and fun. Two of the main ingredients for success are creators/administrators Ed Moes and David Shandes.

At the October Crappie Expo in Hot Springs, Arkansas, crappie.com members had the chance to visit with CrappieNOW visited with the duo as well, enjoying a lot of laughs and great fishing stories.

Ed Moes (a.k.a. Slab)

Ed Moes created Crappie.com. He bought several domain names (web addresses). One was crappie.com. He put up one message board and said everything snowballed from there.

“I go to events, like the Crappie Expo in Hot Springs and the state crappie.com fishing events, because my wonderful wife encourages me,” says Moes, also known as “Slab”, owner of crappie.com. “I’m such a homebody that I’ll stay home all the time, get out to fish on the lake I live on, and seldom go anywhere else unless she pushes me. But once out, I really enjoy going, especially when I can be around crappie fishermen.”

Moes says he tent camped for years and enjoyed it, but his wife got to where she wouldn’t go, so he bought a fifth-wheel camper to travel to events and vacations. He says it’s more fun, comfortable and something they both

enjoy.

“We live in Florida and are into scuba diving. We are advanced divers now. Not my idea, I’m just trying to keep up with my wife, who is also a marathon runner with way too much energy.”

What is something about Ed that most people do not know?

“Nothing. My life is an open book and it’s all there on the website. I write about my adventures. I have them chronologically listed so when I get Alzheimer’s late on, I’ll be able to read it and remember,” chuckles Ed.

“Crappie.com is still growing. Facebook gets a lot of traffic, but unlike them, we have a clean site and our members appreciate that. There was a time in the beginning when we lost some members because we refused to let them put stuff up that we didn’t think appropriate. It was a questionable time for the site but that was really the turnaround for us. We made up for the members we lost and have grown ever since.”

How would you like to be remembered?

“As the owner of crappie.com, who kept it family-friendly all these years,” said Moes.

David Shandes (a.k.a. “G”)

Known as “G,”, Shandes is a primary moderator for crappie.com. He lives near Tupelo, Mississippi.

“I was in some other online forums and started helping with crappie.com. I spotted some things that needed to be changed, so Ed gave me the buttons to push,” said Shandes. “Ed and I are very good friends, but through the years we’ve butted heads and argued a little. But, whoever wins, we just keep going on and are good with it. We have 50,000 members now, all family-friendly that



kids can read. Any bad stuff we spot, we get it off immediately.”

What does it take to moderate?

“A lot of time and the person has to be interested in the website. After I got into it and Ed and I became best friends, my interest level went up and that helps.”

David doesn't fish much now because of age and a fishing partner who is very sick. However, he loves to go out with others while at the fishing camps.

“The people on the site are great and many have become good friends of mine,” he said.

Moes says, “We have 100 moderators on crappie.com who do a great job and they all watch for problems on the site. But “G” has the vast majority of the

work. He allows me to run the server, go to camps and he takes care of the rest. He keeps me straight and between the lines, meaning some things I might have let go, he insists on keeping super-clean and I appreciate that. He has been so valuable to our website, there are no words that does justice. He is a big reason the site has been so successful.”

(Tim Huffman has specialized in crappie fishing writing and photography since 1988. He is currently the Editor/Senior Writer for Crappie Masters Magazine, freelance contributor to four magazines, book author and Senior Writer for CrappieNow Digital Magazine.)



CrappieNOW “How to” Video: Garmin LiveScope

“My granddaddy would flat roll over in his grave.” ~ B’n’M Professional Crappie Angler Ronnie Capps

It is the latest rage in crappie fishing. The manufacturers say the Garmin Panoptix LiveScope allows anglers to see structure, bait and fish swimming below and around your boat in real time, even when your boat is stationary.

CrappieNOW Editor Richard Simms had read about it and watch lots of promotional videos. But in October he got the chance share a day in the boat with B’n’M crappie pro anglers, Ronnie Capps and Steve Coleman on Mississippi’s Lake Grenada.

It appears every top crappie pro is adding the Garmin LiveScope to their fishing arsenal.

Capps admits he and Coleman were a little late to join the party but in the last few months they’ve put the LiveScope to good use to climb to the Number One position in the American Crappie Trail “Angler Team of the Year Standings.”

Dan Dannenmueller (a.k.a. “Crappie Dan”) is a member of Garmin’s Pro Staff. He says, “The Garmin Live Scope is definitely changing how we search for and approach catching crappie. Techniques are changing and how we present the baits due to this technology.”

Here’s a real-life look at how the LiveScope worked for Capps and Coleman on a practice day for the most recent ACT tournament.



CRAPPIE NOW!

DIGITAL MAGAZINE





LEAVE A PLATE OF FISH SALAD AND GRILLED VENISON FOR SANTA

“HERE COMES SANTA CLAUSE, HERE COMES SANTA CLAUSE” and so on until the children are restless for dinner. 'Tis the season, but let's prepare something different this year, mixing up a summer salad with winter wild game for a savory holiday feast. You may leave Santa some leftovers should there be any.

- 4 crappie fillets (6 ounces)
- 1 large peach or 1 small mango
- 1 cup prepared salsa, plain or spicy
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- ½ tablespoon honey
- Pinch of salt
- 6 cups lightly packed tender salad greens
(Make multiples of this recipe to accommodate your family and friends.)

Peel and pit peach or mango, cut into ¼ inch cubes. Place fruit in a bowl and stir in salsa. In a large salad bowl combine 2 tablespoons olive oil, lime juice, honey and salt and whisk together. Add salad greens but do not toss. Preheat broiler. Line baking sheet with foil. Brush both sides of fillets with remaining oil, arrange fish on the foil and broil fish until cooked through. Transfer fish to serving plates and top with fruited salsa. Toss salad and place on plates next to fish.

GRILLED VENISON BACKSTRAP

Now for a hearty, savory Christmas dish of backstrap, which is the loin that consist of muscles on each side of a deer's spine. It's considered the filet mignon cut because the muscles are not weight-bearing and contains less connective tissue, resulting

in the most tender cut. The deer family includes moose, elk, whitetail and reindeer among others.

Let me modify that statement: “filet mignon” (French for “cute” filet) is a steak cut whether from a cow, horse, deer or even a chipmunk (if you want to go to the trouble of separating the cute little backstrap). The “cute” cut is taken from the smaller end of the critter's tenderloin. The backstrap is the whole tenderloin. It runs the length of the back bone the entire length on both sides and is usually harvested as two long cuts. You can buy beef and pork tenderloins at your grocer.

The loin when sliced across the short dimension creates round cuts commonly called “filets” (notice the different spelling of filets?). Depending on the butcher or grocer, most cross-cuts are called filets mignon, but there is a difference. The shape of a true filet mignon is daintier, juicier, more flavorful and more expensive. When it comes to serving filet mignons in a restaurant, most sell the wider steak that is both cheaper but more presentable.

The four beef cuts in front of the hips are, top to bottom: sirloin, tenderloin, top sirloin and bottom sirloin. Deer cuts are the same except in smaller portions. I expect a chipmunk would offer you the same cuts but certainly not in diet-busting proportions.

I take it for granted that most deer slayers butcher their own kill, it's traditional among us purists. We usually whack out the backstrap first, even if the remainder of the carcass goes to a butcher for burger patties. The pleasure of grilling filets of the backstrap is nearly immeasurable. Life is great!

Marinade

4 2-inch thick filets (the cook gets the

“true” filet mignons)

Olive oil – about 3 tablespoons per two pounds

Salt & pepper to taste

Onion powder to taste

Garlic salt to taste

Fresh herbs – rosemary, thyme, oregano: optional

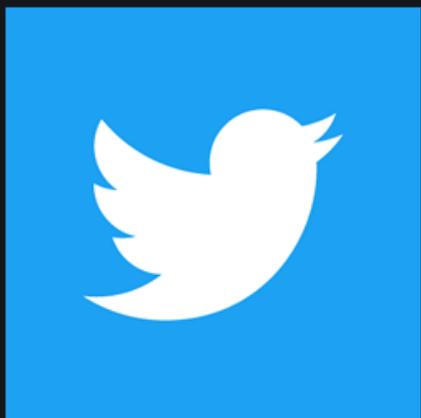
Mix marinade of oil and seasonings. Fully coat filets in a shallow covered dish and set in refrigerator for at least 2 hours

or overnight. Turn steaks at least once. The longer the meat marinates the more robust the flavors.

Preheat your grill to high. For pretty grill marks rotate cuts 90 degrees after about 2-3 minutes. Cook for about 5 minutes per side for medium-rare doneness. Remove and rest a few minutes before serving. Serve steaks with grilled herbed potatoes and the crappie salsa salad.

CRAPPIE NOW! *DIGITAL MAGAZINE*

FOLLOW US ON YOUR PREFERRED SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLET AND NEVER MISS AN UPDATE!



CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

DECATUR LAKE

OCTOBER 20th

1. Dave Redecki/Scott Boston	9.17
2. Brian Plank/Will Pland	9.06
3. David Birch	7.55
4. Lee Buehnerkemper/Greg Niebrugge	6.88
5. Shawn Shelby/Mike Hopkins	6.65

BIG FISH

1. Shawn Shelby/Mike Hopkins	2.09
------------------------------	------

CRAPPIE USA

OLD HICKORY LAKE

OCTOBER 23rd - 26th

AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Shawn Salyers/Josh Lovett	18.29
2. Dewayne McCord/Eddie Feagin	17.55
3. Glenn Ward/Donnie Miller	17.55
4. Dominic Dugic/Jeffrey Lee	17.55
5. Stephen Crepps/Chad Crepps	17.45

PRO DIVISION

1. Jason Koesters/Jake Hengstler	19.75
2. Randy Pope/Steven Deitz	18.21
3. Harold Maddux/Brian Oldham	17.69
4. Steve Deason/Rick Howard	16.87
5. Neal Alvis/Scott Bunch	16.7

BIG FISH

1. Neal Alvis/Scott Bunch	2.05
---------------------------	------

FLORIDA CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE TARPON

OCTOBER 26th

1. George Parker	7.09.1
2. Ronnie Maddox/Robert Wolfe	6.14.8
3. Harold/Joe	6.13.2
4. Tommy Kinsler/John Peyton	6.12.5
5. Marvin Wiggins/Laura Wiggins	6.11.3

BIG FISH

1. Ronnie Maddox/Robert Wolfe	1.04.5
-------------------------------	--------

YADKIN RIVER CRAPPIE TRAIL

BADIN LAKE

OCTOBER 26th

1. Lundy/Koon	10.3
2. Blevins/Miller	10.27
3. Burris/Kendall	9.82
4. Montgomery/Walser	9.74
5. Eudy/Koontz	9.69

BIG FISH

1. Robertson/Robertson	1.92
------------------------	------

BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION

BEAVER LAKE

OCTOBER 26th - 27th

1. Payron Usery/Tiffany Usery	15.56
2. Seth Eden/Randy Eden	15.18
3. Brian Trollinger/Ron Walker	14.88
4. Ronnie/Brad	14.49
5. Cody	13.81

BIG FISH

1. Ronnie/Brad	1.45
----------------	------

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

DECATER LAKE

NOVEMBER 2nd

1. Dave Birch/Brian Cleland	5.72
2. John Carr/Roger Cox	5.27
3. Shawn Shelby/Mike Hopkins	4.91
4. Steve Peck/Jenni Price	4.67
5. Rich Goodbrake/John Goodbrake	4.64

BIG FISH

1. Brian Carter/Mike Drake	1.29
----------------------------	------

CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB

CHESTER FROST PARK

NOVEMBER 3rd

1. Bobby Ramsey/Tabitha Ramsey	9.39
2. Brian Howard/Tina Howard	8.98

BIG FISH

1. Bobby Ramsey/Tabitha Ramsey	1.58
--------------------------------	------



CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE SHELBYVILLE

NOVEMBER 9th

1. Matt Jones/Lee Buehnerkemper	7.92
2. Jeff Revell/Frank Revell Jr	7.82
3. Fred Brozio/Lee Penn	7.75
4. Dustin Reynolds/Jost Nast	7.06
5. Chase Painter/Mick Painter	6.63

BIG FISH

1. Fred Brozio/Lee Penn	1.67
-------------------------	------

FLORIDA CRAPPIE CLUB

SANTA FE

NOVEMBER 9th

1. Darryl Cole	10.15
2. Jack/John	8.14
3. George Parker	8.09
4. Fred/Charles	7.15
5. Al Green/Alan Green	7.09

BIG FISH

1. Danny/Beth	1.15.6
2. Fred/Charles	1.15.2

TWIN LAKES CRAPPIE CLUB

FISH ANYWHERE

NOVEMBER 9th

1. Lee Anderson/Rick Johnston	11.14
2. James Thomason/Chris Collins	8.52
3. Frank Finley/Doug Bell	7.58
4. John Fegan/Angie Fegan	7.27

BIG FISH

1. Lee Anderson/Rick Johnston	1.98
-------------------------------	------

MAGNOLIA CRAPPIE CLUB

WASHINGTON LAKE

NOVEMBER 16th

1. Rabbit Rogers/Pat Jeffcoats	11.67
2. John Harrison/Lance Evans	11.21
3. Jeremy Aldridge/Clint Egbert	11.1
4. John Mayo/Jason Cook	11.06
5. Jimmy Ayers/Michael Clinard	10.9

BIG FISH

1. Gene Lester/Lisa Lester	2.44
----------------------------	------

YADKIN RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE TILLERY

NOVEMBER 16th

1. Hawkins/Hawkins	8.11
2. McGee/Hargraves	6.89
3. Lundy Koontz	6.82
4. Blevins/Miller	6.69
5. Pope/Dietz	6.31

BIG FISH

1. Blevins/Miller	1.75
-------------------	------

CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB

CHESTER FROST PARK

NOVEMBER 17th

1. Michael Ray/Brian Parker	9.42
2. Mike Johnston/Ricky Watts	8.04

BIG FISH

1. Brian Higgins	1.67
------------------	------

CRAPPIE CALENDAR

DEC	7th	BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION	BEAVER LAKE	BIG CRAPPIE CHALLENGE
DEC	7th	CRAPPIE USA	ST. JOHNS RIVER	TRAIL
DEC	7th	MAGNOLIA CRAPPIE CLUB	OKATIBBEE LAKE	CLUB
DEC	7th	TWIN LAKES CRAPPIE CLUB	FISH ANYWHERE	CLASSIC
DEC	7th	CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB	CHESTER FROST PARK	CLUB
DEC	14th	FLORIDA CRAPPIE CLUB	CRESENT LAKE	CLASSIC
DEC	14th	MIDDLE TENNESSEE	WOODS RESERVOIR	CLUB
DEC	14th	YADKIN RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB	TUCKERTOWN RESERVOIR	TRAIL
DEC	15th	WAPPALLO	WAPPAPELLO LAKE	CLUB
DEC	21st	CM /ALABAMA CRAPPIE TRAIL	LAKE JORDAN	TRAIL

CRAPPIE CLUBS

Club	Contact	Link
AMERICAN CRAPPIE TRAIL	Matt Morgan	FACEBOOK
BAYOU STATE CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION	Brandon Jennings	FACEBOOK
BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE ASSOC.	Peyton Usery	FACEBOOK
BOYDS CRAPPIE TRAIL	Blake Phillips	FACEBOOK
CAPITOL CRAPPIE CLUB	Austin Kneeskern	FACEBOOK
CENTRAL ALABAMA CRAPPIE CLUB	Dan Dannanmueller/Jonathan Phillips	FACEBOOK
CENTRAL ARKANSAS CRAPPIE CLUB	Jason Westerberg	FACEBOOK
CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB	Joe Schrader/Greg Foley	FACEBOOK
CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB	Mike Johnston/Jim Edmister	FACEBOOK
COOSA RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB	J CULBERSON	FACEBOOK
CRAPPIE ANGLERS OF TEXAS	JAY Reve	FACEBOOK
CRAPPIE MASTERS	Mike Valentine	FACEBOOK
CRAPPIE USA	Darrell Van Vactor	FACEBOOK
CRAPPIENUTZ MS	Robert Smith/Joe Faircloth	FACEBOOK
EAST TENNESSEE CRAPPIE CLUB		FACEBOOK
EASTERN MISSOURI CRAPPIE CLUB	Steve Perotto	FACEBOOK
FISH THE CAROLINAS	Nate Quan	FACEBOOK
FLORIDA CRAPPIE CLUB	Darrell Cole	FACEBOOK
GRAND LAKE CRAPPIE SERIES OH	Jeff	WEBSITE
HOI CRAPPIE CLUB	Chad Anderson	FACEBOOK
INDIANNA SLAB MASTERS	Joe Long/Damon Phillips	FACEBOOK
KANSAS CRAPPIE CLUB	Hoe Bragg/Frank Haidusek	FACEBOOK
LAKE OKEECHOBEE CRAPPIE SERIES	Derrick Moore 954-650-0456	FACEBOOK
MAGNOLIA CRAPPIE CLUB	Michael Nowell/Roger Womack	FACEBOOK
MIDDLE TENNESSEE CRAPPIE CLUB	Toby Ivey	FACEBOOK
NORTHEAST GEORGIA CRAPPIE	Kevin Strong	FACEBOOK
NORTHEAST OHIO CRAPPIE CLUB	Dan Elko/Robert Elko	WEBSITE
OKLAHOMA CRAPPIE TRAIL	Darrell and Brian	FACEBOOK
PEACH STATE CRAPPIE CLUB	Robert Smith	FACEBOOK
SHOALS AREA CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION	Keith Dodd	FACEBOOK
SOUTH CAROLINA CRAPPIE ASSOC	Jerry Bundrick	FACEBOOK
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CRAPPIE	Chad Hamson	FACEBOOK
SLABMASTERS TOURNAMENT TRAIL	Jamie Moore/Dan Sidle	FACEBOOK
S.N.A. CRAPPIE MASTERS	Tony Long/Todd Ulery	FACEBOOK
SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE CLUB IL	Jerry Jallas/Rick Montooth	FACEBOOK
TRUMAN LAKE TOURNAMENT SERIES	Roger Mann 913-963-6350/ANGLERS PORT MARINE	FACEBOOK
TWIN LAKES CRAPPIE CLUB		FACEBOOK
ULTIMATE PANFISH LEAGUE/UPL		FACEBOOK
WAPPAPELLO CRAPPIE CLUB MO		FACEBOOK
YADKIN RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB	SHANE WALSER	FACEBOOK

Photo Contest



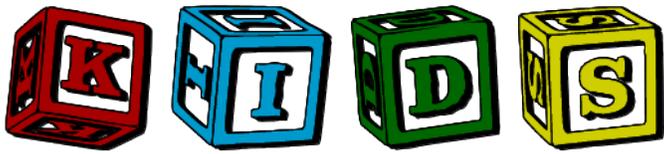
1st Place This Month!

Kevin Cardin
Left 14" 1lb 7oz
Right 14" 1lb 9oz

Crappie NOW e-magazine accepts color digital images for publication. A single photo will be selected after the 10th of each month for the next month's edition. The winner will be contacted via email with prize information.

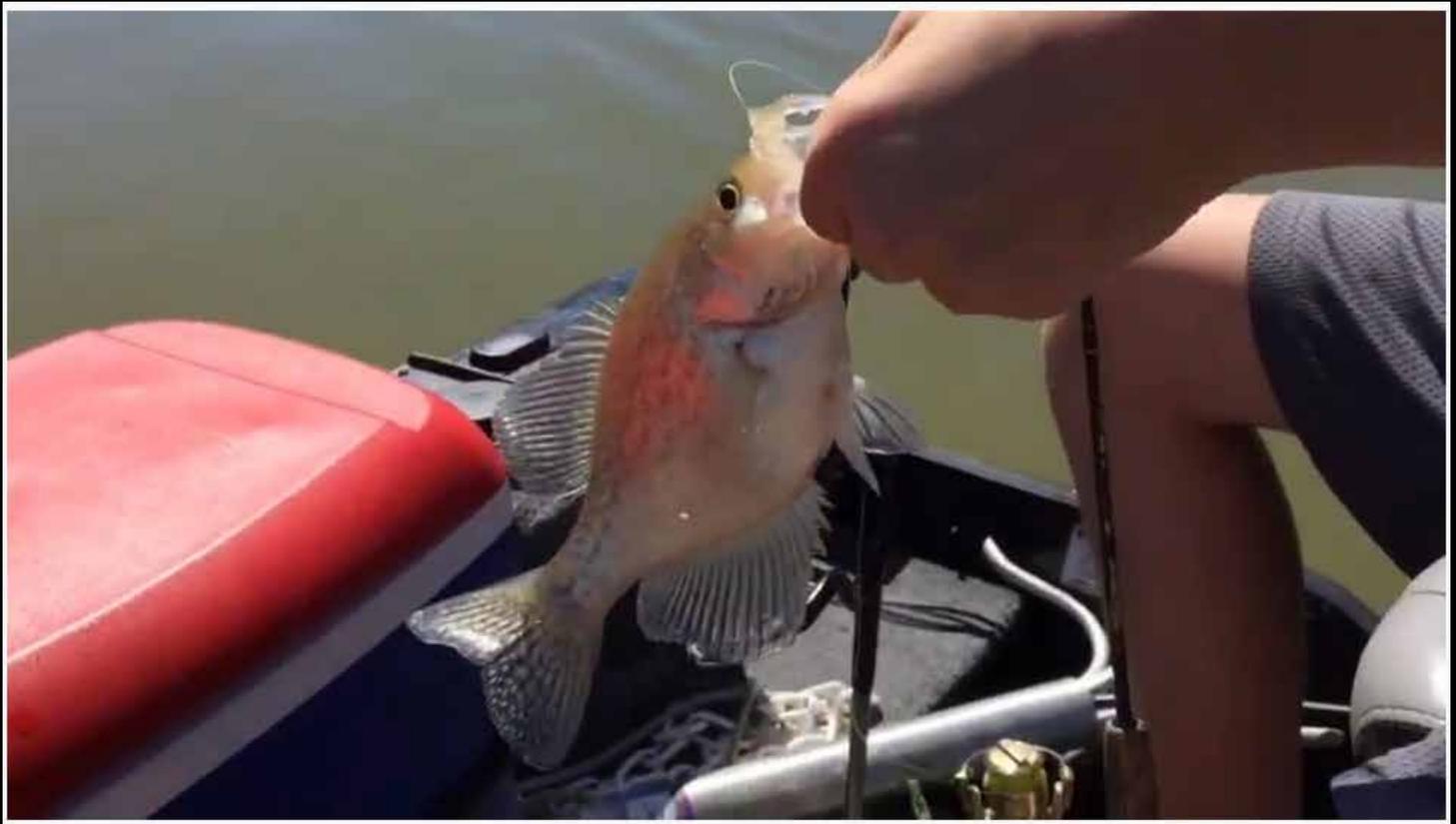
Check out www.crappienow.com for details.

CRAPPIE



Sam and Max

Sam and Max Volpintesta, along with their Dad, Bart, enjoy a taste of crappie and catfishing on Chickamauga Lake in Tennessee with Scenic City Fishing Charters.





Whether you visit for a crappie fishing trip or a winter duck hunt, be SURE and take your camera along anytime you visit Reelfoot Lake, one of the most photogenic locales we know of.

(Photo: Richard Simms)