



WELCOME TO OUR NEW ACA PRESIDENT DAVID ROBERTS

NEWS FROM BACK EAST BY: JOHN FIELD

Over the past eight years, I've been trying to find a way to bring ACA casting back to the East and also incorporate casting history into its three fishing museums... (p.4)

KY REELS COME HOME BY: BILL BURKE

Imagine having the opportunity to see on display every B. F. Meek, Meek and Sons, Milam, Meek and Milam, and George Gayle model reels ever made. (p.8)

MY FIRST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BY: LARRY ALLEN

The Fields - The casting area was big enough for 6 full fields, several practice fields, and an open space to check your distance equipment. Each (p.10)

YOUTH CASTING PROGRAM EXPANDING BY: LU ANN JOHNSON

The 2013 season saw rapid growth, with the 3rd, 4th and 8th districts adding their youth to the competition. (p.12)



The Creel

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President's Address



Hello to all,

I hope everyone has been well since our National Tournament. I would like to thank the Oakland Casting Club for a wonderful job in hosting the tournament. Everything ran smoothly and we received numerous, great pictures from Ira Gralek, Bob Middo, and Chris Korich. I hope I have not missed any contributors and wish to thank all our photographers for their time and donations. I discovered we had a new youth caster, Maxine McCormick, who could put many of the adults to shame, myself included.

Before I go much further I want to acknowledge our Past President. John has been taking care of more than I ever imagined, from the email system he was using that could reach over 1800 members, clubs, and organizations, to his work on the Casting History Committee, to helping organize a new club, with Per Brandin, in the Catskills. When I decided to run for this job I had no idea how much John was taking care of, nor just how large this job had become.

The last couple of months have been busy for me, appointing committees, working on a National Location for next year, dealing with finalizing the book publishing contract with Whitefish Press and Dr. Todd Larson, and dealing with some retirements. Everyone should applaud Dale and Darlene Lanser for their 25 years of service to the association. They have decided to retire from Executive Secretary and Treasurer to spend some quality time with their grandchildren. We will certainly miss dealing with them on a regular basis and hope all goes well with them in the future.

After a few short discussions, Patrick and Penny McFadden volunteered to fill these positions and have been approved by the board. Patrick is a Past President and Penny has a Master's in Business Administration. With their qualifications I think we will be well equipped to expand and improve our practices to keep up with the changing business programs.

The contract has been signed and mailed to Dr. Todd Larson to get started on publishing Cliff Netherton's third book. I must give John Fields and Chris Korich most of the credit for orchestrating this project, since I only stepped in for the signing. Hopefully we will have a new book in the next year to further Cliff's research.

Continued ...

LuAnn Johnson and her husband Chuck have taken over the ACA webpage and the publishing of the Creel. We are in the process of getting the fall edition out in the next few weeks. This has all become a "learn on the job" adventure for me. I am attempting to learn the formula for using the Constant Contacts unit, developed by John, to reach the maximum amount of people. I am finding it is hard to take a 1970's mentality and try to upgrade it to the 21st century.

Here are your committee personnel. I am hopeful that in later editions of the Creel and/or the website they can each have a section to talk about their ideas and progress.

By-Laws, Rules and Regulations: Chairman - Henry Mittel

Members: Bill Burke, Larry Allen, John Field, and Craig Buckbee

Youth: Chairman - Chris Korich

Members – LuAnn Johnson, Glenn McCormick, John Field

US Casting Team: Chairman - Steve Rajeff

Elections Committee: Chairman - Alice Gillebert

Members – Beth Statt, Pam Peters, Ellen Papenfuse, and Elmer Bergandahl.

The members of this committee, in attendance at next year's National, will be the credentials Committee.

Resolutions: Chairman - Pam Peters

Membership: Chairman - John Seroczynski

Fundraising: Chairman - Per Brandin

Members: John Field and Steve Rajeff

Communications: Chairman - LuAnn Johnson

Members: Chuck Johnson

Casting History: Chairman - John Field

Members: Chris Korich, Andy Statt, and Per Brandin

Advisor: Dr. Todd Larson

Finally, in closing, If anyone has any ideas, thoughts, or suggestions to help further the sport of casting, feel free to contact me. My email address is: dwroberts@twc.com

Thanks, David W Roberts

News From Back East

By: John Field, ACA Immediate Past President



The members of the Catskill Mountain Casting Club hold their first meeting.

Over the past eight years, I've been trying to find a way to bring ACA casting back to the East and also incorporate casting history into its three fishing museums, the American Museum of Fly Fishing, the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum and the International Game Fish Association.

In 2008, I arranged for a tournament at the IGFA and its president Rob Kramer was interested in showing some of our casting history in their \$20M IGFA Museum and Hall of Fame. Unfortunately we had no items to exhibit until 2013 and I hope to revisit Rob's offer.

As a result of this event and our outreach to local casters, a club was formed near Tampa, FL. Since I have several friends on the board of AMFF in Manchester, VT, I hope to

also discuss doing something up there in the future.

In September 2012, I arranged a meeting to discuss plans with CFFCM Museum Director Jim Krul, world famous split-cane rod builder, angling historian and former Oakland Casting Club president, Per Brandin, Dr. Todd Larson, angling historian and author, editor and publisher and myself.

Todd also owns and operates Whitefish Press, specializing in angling history. After our discussion, Jim Krul indicated he was receptive to the addition of ACA casting and history to the CFFCM.

In the winter of 2013, Per Brandin and I formed the Catskill Mountain Casting Club and began biweekly practice sessions and casting

demonstrations at the Center's pond and field. This also includes some plug casting!

Joan Wulff volunteered as recording secretary at our inaugural meeting last winter and has participated in almost all of our practice sessions. Gail Donahue and Paul Gallo from Manhattan have hardly missed a session.

One weekend I invited Donald Trump Jr. and after giving him a quick demo, he very adroitly cast a few rounds of our three fly accuracy events. The next step in the plan at CFFCM was to install casting history displays.

Jim Krul offered us a permanent ACA display in the Wulff Gallery and a one-year display in the main Museum.

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He even indicated he would like to include all types of tackle. This last summer, I selected key items from the ACA's newly acquired Cliff Netherton Archive and Collection located in Cincinnati and delivered them to the CFFCM. Per arranged a display of mid 20th century bamboo rods in the newly

finished Wulff gallery; several Winstons from the ACA and the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club and an E.C. Powell from the GGACC Foundation and Joan Wulff's famous Taylor Trout Distance rod with which she cast 161ft. Next was to establish the display in the main Museum. Jim Krul obtained a glass and

oak display cabinet for this task.

I spent two days, with the help of my seven year-old daughter, arranging and labeling reels, medals and other memorabilia from Cliff's collection in the case and on a cork wall surface above (see photos).



TOP: The ACA display in the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum.

LEFT: Stephanie Field lending Dad a hand with setting up the ACA display.

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If you are a collector of casting tackle and memorabilia and would like to donate or lend something to the ACA, please contact me at johnlfield100@gmail.com.

ACA is a recognized 501(C)3 tax-exempt organization.

Below is a list of the ACA tackle now on display, or waiting its turn to be exhibited.

RODS:

Shakespeare, Custom made for Wm. Shakespeare, Bamboo, 5/8 oz. Bait Casting Rod with handle, Also with Shakespeare Sportcast Reel, No. 1980; **Made for and used by Wm. Shakespeare**; Rod and Reel in separate wooden case. Good dry butt wrap and finish around guides

Rod-Phillipson Peerless Bamboo Fly Rod, Impregnated, Dry Fly Special, 8'- 5 1/2", Lin #6, Extra handle; **Given to Cliff Netherton by Bill Phillipson**. Good

#3 Rod- Winston 5/8 oz. Accuracy, Bamboo, Bait Casting Rod, with straight handle for Rod, Heddon Handle (1947) Rod in wooden case with Shakespeare Rod & Reel. GOOD, clean & align filed

Rod Utica Bamboo, Fly Rod. 9', 3-piece w/ extra tip. GOOD

Winston Bamboo, Fly Rod: used for Salmon Distance or 2-handed Distance Fly event, in metal tubular case; **Owned and used by Earl Osten**- GOOD

Rod Winston, Bamboo, Fly Rod ; used for Trout Fly Distance or Single Handed Distance Fly Event, in metal tubular case, **Owned and used by Earl Osten** Good bamboo, missing wraps

2 Rods- Jim Heddon's Favorite, 6 piece split bamboo, one is XL(extra-light) action, designed for 3/8 oz plugs or spoons, one is L (light) action, designed for 5/8 oz plugs or spoons, with both straight handle with straight handle

2 Rods- Conolon, Fiberglass by Narmco, one is XL (extra-light) action, designed for 3/8 oz plugs or spoons, one is L (extra-light) action, designed for 5/8 oz plugs or spoons, with both straight handle and "off-set" handle. Both good with dry wraps

REELS:

Langley, Lurecast KC • Langley Lakecast 350 • Shakespeare Sportcast 1973 GE • Shakespeare 1973D Direct Drive, Model FK, Customized spool • Langley Plugcast 360 • J.Cox Coronet, 25 N • Langley 340 • Bronson, Coronet 25 • A.F. Meiselbach Mfg. Tripart No 580 • Featherlight No. 270 circa 1896 • Pflueger Progress 60 • Luxor, Pezon-Michel, Spinning Reel, French • LL Bean clear plastic Fly Reel • Heddon "Pal" P41 for Skish • Castomatic Outdoor Products Division of Quaker City Gear Works, Bait • Casting Reel(red) for Skish bait distance & fishing.

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A group of reels presented in the ACA display in the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum.



Joan Wulff works a fly-rod during a gathering of the Catskill Mountain Casting Club



Kentucky Reels Come Home

By: Bill Burke

The Old Reel Collectors Association (ORCA) held its annual convention in Frankfort, KY over the last few days. Never in the history of conducting ORCA conventions have so many Kentucky reels been displayed in one place.

Imagine having the opportunity to see on display every B. F. Meek, Meek and Sons, Milam, Meek and Milam, and George Gayle model reels ever made. Many of the reels were for sale if you had a friendly banker while most could not be purchased at any price. While Kentucky style reels

were the main feature at the convention, also on display were Vom Hofe, Meisselbach, Shakespeare, Langley, Penn, Bristol, Heddon, Talbot, Pflueger, South Bend, and makes that I never knew existed.

David Roberts and I attended the ORCA convention and one of the favorite activities by many was the ORCA casting competition. Three events comprised the overall competition. First was the 5/8oz. accuracy plug event which required the use of only bamboo or metal casting rods

along with a level wind reel manufactured on or before the year 1940. Second was another 5/8oz accuracy plug event requiring the use of the same type rod and a Non Level Wind reel also made in the year 1940 or earlier. And last was the 1/4oz. spinning event requiring a rod and reel dating from 1950 or earlier. As stated earlier, the combined scores for all three events determine the winner. I am happy to report that David is the 2013 ORCA casting champion.

David Roberts – 2013 ORCA Casting Champion



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An awesome B. F. Meek Reel Display



The best display award went to the Penn Senator Reel Collector



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The Nick Hadden, Jr. Miniature of Mt. Sterling, KY shown beside a Quarter for Comparison. (Smaller than a Meek 1)



The 2014 ORCA Convention is scheduled for San Diego, CA. For our west coast friends, this is a must see event. For more information, please visit www.orca-online.org

My First World Championships

By: Larry Allen

I was asked to share my experience of being introduced to the ICSF World Championships.

Arrival Day – When we got to the host hotel we started seeing the teams with nice uniforms. There are not many that speak English, and I was lucky to be with Henry, to interpret and guide me through the steps. Right away, you can see it is a much larger group than our nationals. The average age is much younger

than ACA participants and most of them look fit and athletic.

The evening of check-in you are given a book with all the games, stations, and casting order. We were also given a number to wear at all times when casting. It had a number on the front and back, and any judge, participant, or bystander could tell who is casting. as well as participants can see who is up and how long it is until your turn to cast. Since there were 75 casters,

this is needed to keep track of such a large event. The hotel also had the banquet room for the end of the tournament dinner and awards.

The Fields - The casting area was big enough for 6 full fields, several practice fields, and an open space to check your distance equipment. Each casting station had a little awning with a judge desk, and a laptop wired into the main system.

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Back about 100 feet from the casting station was another awning with a computer screen also hooked into the network. Scores are live and real time on the screen behind that field. Then off to the side was a main screen that would display all the ongoing casting results as they happen. Close to that was a bulletin board with posted results sheets much like we have.

There was a large tent provided at the fields with rows of picnic tables for the participants. Henry and I selected a table and used it to store our gear between games for that day. They also served as shelter during the rainstorms. Next to the fields and the tent was a building that had food and drinks. Coupons were issued that got you meals during the day at the field. Usually lunch was around noon or one and conveniently right on the field.

Central to the tent and eating facility was a gathering area where each country's flag was placed. You would gather and stand behind your country's flag for announcements and awards.

The award stands had raised platforms for first second and third and then the finalists would line up in the order they finished in next to the medals stand. When medals were awarded, they would raise the flags of the three medalists and everyone turned to face the flags. Then they would play the

national anthem of the Gold medalist country.

The Hotel was about a 20-minute drive away and on the edge of town. It was just off a freeway and next to a mall. The hotel had breakfast every day and you could ride a bus to and from the fields if you wanted. There was an evening meal buffet also provided.

At the hotel you get your event package, containing a schedule, telling you which station to report to and who you would follow for each event. You would be assigned a new station for each event.

Casting the Events - I did not cast well for many reasons, including, being nervous about new faces, different games than ours, casting from stands, facing the narrow looking V-courts, and especially the very high level of casting going on by all the teams. What made it a great time for me, despite my poor showing, was not just the constant learning every day, but most of all getting to watch Henry Mittel cast so well.

Henry let me tend line and hold spare flies for the two fly distance games. When he won in 2H Fly, even his second cast would have won Gold. Different than our games, a single lucky cast will only get you into the finals with 7 others, and then you have to do it again. So these two longest casts on the field were after

getting into the finals.

As an observer, you can see all the fields and judges standing out there. They stake each cast, with a 3 foot pole that has a tennis ball on top, so it is very visible. I could see that Henry had some of the longest casts but you don't know for sure until they are measured.

There was a great sense of pride of getting to be on the USA team since Henry was up front so many times. It was extra special when Henry stood at the top of the stands and watched them raise the American flag while the National Anthem played. It seemed like everyone there stopped by to congratulate Henry and he was also asked for autographs.

After having seen a World Championship, I now have a greater appreciation for Bill Burke and the Kentucky Blue Grass club that has set up the ICSF accuracy games the day before the Kentucky Open for two years. Matt Targosz has been there each time as a coach. The only thing missing is the V-Court for distance games.

This is important as extra skills are needed when wind directions change and it is necessary to handle cross winds and stay within the court. It would be a great benefit if more clubs, especially in the West would have the targets, stands and gear for ICSF

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casting sport to allow more practice sessions.

In Europe they have 3-4 of these competitions per year besides regular practice camps. I had a chance to get coached by Steve and Henry, but some

competitions similar to ACA regionals would be very helpful. This was an experience I will never forget, and is on my wish list for a second chance. I wish that we could have a complete 4-person USA team like the other countries have.

It would be something to have Steve, Henry, and Matt together on a USA team, and hopefully that may very well happen next year.

Youth Casting Program Expanding

By: Lu Ann Johnson

During the 2012 League of Kentucky Sportsmen casting season, there was one consistent district – the 6th. The 6th district included the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League and Anderson County Sportsman's Club. Blue Grass cast on water – Anderson County on grass. There were 52 youth casters during the season.

The 2013 season saw rapid growth, with the 3rd, 4th and 8th districts adding their youth to the competition. Although all 3 new districts are casting on grass, they have produced a new group of winners.

New clubs include the Bullitt County Rod and Gun Club, Barren River Lake Rod and Gun Club, Lincoln Trails Sportsmen's Club and the Rowan County Gun Club. Over 100 kids came out during the season to attempt putting plug to target and most are looking forward to next year.

The 6th district may have taken the awards last year, but 2013 is a different story. Each club, with the exception of Blue Grass, has produced at least one state winner - pretty ironic that the club where it started is the one club that didn't place.

The organizers and competitors from the other districts are excited by their new sport and it gives the little ones a chance to beat their elders. For example, a

5 year old at Rowan County scored a 72, beating all others at that club (and yes he shot a perfect on the 80 ft target).

As Youth Chairman for the League of Kentucky Sportsmen, 2013 was the year of "Have Targets will Travel". I have visited all the clubs in the 4 districts currently casting; carried equipment, line, plugs and targets across the state. It has been great, but hopefully 2014 will be even better.



4th district LKS youth casting program