

CRAPPIE **NOW!** **DIGITAL MAGAZINE**

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May Tactics & Tips



Features

Get the Drop On Crappie....4

by John Neporadny Jr

A drop shot rig opens the door to a different option for catching crappie. Get down tight in the cover.



Elmore County Crappie & Catfish Camp....10

by Tim Huffman

Alabama River & Lake Jordan



Working Sharp Corners.....14

by Vic Attardo

Catching crappie can depend upon finding exactly the right structure. Corners are a good place to start.



American Crappie Trail – Ross Barnett....22

by Ron Wong

How Did the Top Teams Catch Their Fish?



Product Review- Scales....28

by Tim Huffman

A fisherman may truly believe he has a three-pound fish but most of the time he is wrong. So, there are two theories for weighing a fish.



Departments

Vern's Cooking & Tidbits....30

Crappie Calendar....42

Tournament Results....32

Crappie Clubs....43

PUBLISHER

Dan Dannenmueller

EDITOR/ SR. WRITER

Tim Huffman

IN MEMORIAM

T.J. Stallings

WRITERS

Darl Black

Vic Attardo

Ron Presley

Vernon Summerlin

John Phillips

Greg McCain

John Felsher

LAYOUT

Eric Lambert

VALUED READER

You

Contact us at:

info@crappienow.com

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Opening Cast

Studying tournament fishermen has complicated my life.

I remember a simpler time when I knew what to take fishing. A trip consisted of grabbing my Zebco 33 and tin can full of redworms, maybe a bucket of minnows, and a bag of Mann's Jelly Worms. I would throw stuff on my bicycle and head to the nearest pond. All species were fair game.

In my mid-teens, a 1954 Ford extended my range to rivers and borrow ditches. Trips were still simple and fun.

Things didn't change much in vo-tech school, college and biomed school. Limited time and money kept my fishing arsenal small but I moved up to better rod and reel combos and more baits. Graduation and a regular job led to a johnboat, but I kept fishing simple.

Today things are complicated. I agonize over what to take fishing. I need a Gore-Tex rain suit, waterproof boots and water sandals, a pair of polarized sunglasses, sunscreens and buff to protect old skin from the sun, insulated coat and bibs, cell phone, credit card for when my cell phone falls into the lake, scent-killing hand towels, cool looking logo shirts, digital camera, Side Imaging, mapping chips, drag chain...all things I didn't have when fishing was simple.

I have 80 fishing poles. That's three times more than I need and ten fewer than I want. I must decide which ones to take; jigging poles, casting rods, pullin' rods, slow trolling 16-footers or the 12-footers, etc.

Baits are difficult, too. A bucket of minnows and four colors of jigs is all that's needed to catch crappie, but having eight shades of greens, blues, reds, etc. is very important "just in case". Also, I need different styles of bodies including tube, shad, stinger, paddle-tail, curlytail, mini, maxi, etc. and four weights of jigheads in four colors each. So now I have to choose from over 3000 possible combinations when I tie on a jig.

Nuf said...I miss the simpler life when I knew what to take fishing.

Tim Huffman
Editor/Sr. Writer

3 Crappie NOW May 2018



Cover Photo:

Driftmaster owner David Baynard with an Alabama River crappie. Tim Huffman photo.

Get the Drop On Crappie

by John Naporadny Jr

Barry Morrow was fishing a tournament at Stockton Lake in Missouri, when he discovered a bass fishing finesse technique also triggered strikes from finicky crappie.

"I had been prefishing all week and using jigs only," Morrow recalls. "When my partner got down there, he ended up using the jigs and I thought I needed to do something completely different. So we were jig fishing trees and I just tied on an octopus hook on a drop shot with a 1/4-ounce weight on the bottom of it and fished it about 12 inches high. The bite was finicky enough that I almost had to swim it fast by the trees."

So during the tournament, Morrow's partner fished with a jig while Morrow stuck with the drop shot rig, which he believes helped them finish 10th in the tournament. "It gave us a whole different approach," he says. "I was just pitching it by the trees and letting it fall to get a live minnow reaction bite."

Morrow would either pitch his rig to the trees to let it swing back to the boat or drop the rig next to the tree and let it fall straight to the bottom for a vertical presentation. "A lot of times when I would drop it straight down by the tree, I would just bounce the weight off the bottom and let it sit there," he says. "I would then get a bite 8 to 10 inches off the bottom." He believes the weight bouncing off the lake floor stirred up bottom debris and created a feeding response from crappie.

The drop shot rig has now become one

of Morrow's favorite tactics to employ when he needs to try something different. Morrow dotes on fishing with jigs, but when the jig bite is off he switches to the drop shot. He also relies on the drop shot to catch crappie passed over by spider riggers.

"When you are spider rigging, you are going over the cover or coming into it and you get hung up and just sit there," he says. "You can spider rig the cover and think you have

...Morrow moves closer to the target and drops his rig straight down the tree trunk.

caught all the fish there or you are just not getting bit. But, if you just slide off to the side of that cover and drop shot it, it is an ideal way to pick up fish that you thought were not there. If you don't do that, then you are missing out on some fish."

The drop shot rig is especially effective for Morrow when he fishes the cedar trees on his home waters of Missouri's Truman Lake. "There is a time in the spring when the fish move off the beds and start transitioning to the wood," Morrow says. He resorts to the drop shot when the fish are in the cedars because it allows him to keep his minnow or soft plastic lures tight to his line and makes it easier to bounce through the limbs or keep



A drop shot rig produces for Barry Morrow when crappie get finicky





close to the trunk of the tree.

"It is a tactic you can use for standing timber, whether it is hardwoods or hedge trees," Morrow says. "The more limbs the better this technique is because you are able to control the bait better."

Sunken brush piles are also ideal cover for Morrow to employ his drop shot. "There is always a sweet spot in a brush pile," he says. "If you work the outside edges first and then work your way into that thick part, you have no fear in doing that (with the drop shot) because you have total control of what's going down."

Morrow starts his rig by tying a number 2 octopus, Aberdeen or Tru-Turn Aberdeen hook to his 12-pound copolymer or 15-pound braid line with a Palomar knot and leaves a tag line of about 8 to 12 inches. He then slips the tag line back down through the hook eye. "That keeps the hook lying straight from the line with the barb pointing up," Morrow says. He completes his rig by tying on either a bell sinker or Bakudan weight to the tag line or crimps a split shot at the end of the tag line. The minimum size weight he usually uses is

Barry Morrow vertical jigs a drop shot rig when crappie are holding tight to the trunk of standing timber.

1/4 ounce.

The Missouri angler chooses either a Red Neck Rubber Company Beaver Bottoms Baits or Bobby Garland Crappie Baby Shad to attach three different ways to his drop shot hook. He either (1) nose hooks the bait on the octopus hook; (2) runs the Aberdeen hook through the lure's body and sticks the hook point out the top of the lure; or (3) makes the lure weedless by sticking the Tru-Turn hook through the lure's body and twists the hook to run the point back into the body. When Morrow fishes the drop shot with a minnow, he runs the hook through the minnow's lips from bottom to top.

The Truman Lake guide mainly relies on two presentations for drop-shotting wood cover. "If I am fishing standing timber I flip it probably 3 or 4 feet past the tree and then I swim it," he says. "I will swim it on both sides of the tree or all three or four sides of the tree



and then I am going to go straight down the trunk.”


When swimming the rig, Morrow never lets the weight hit the bottom. “If I am fishing 10 feet of water I am going to flip it down to about 4 feet under the water,” he says. While positioning his boat about 10 feet from his target, Morrow either pitches to the cover and swims his rig back through the tree limbs or drops his rig near the boat and “walks” it towards the trunk of the tree.

If the swimming presentation fails to trigger strikes, Morrow moves closer to the target and drops his rig straight down the tree trunk. “I let that weight touch down on the bottom and bounce it two or three times there and then I am just going to hold it,” says Morrow, who usually holds it still for 10 to 15 seconds. “A lot of my bigger bites come off the bottom.” If crappie ignore the still bait, Morrow slowly raises the rig back to

Barry Morrow uses a variety of hooks and weights for drop shot techniques using soft plastics or minnows.

the surface which allows him to fish different levels of the water column before trying a new spot.

When presenting his drop shot to cover, Morrow depends on either a 10-foot Todd Huckabee Dipping Rod or a 10-foot, 7-inch Todd Huckabee Pro Series Rod. He matches the Dipping Rod with a Quantum spinning reel spooled with copolymer line and combines the Pro Series Rod with a B’n’M Buck’s Best Ultra-Light Reel filled with braid.

 - John Neporadny Jr.

CRAPPIE GEAR

by Tim Huffman

David Baynard, a second-generation rod holder guru with Driftmaster (Black River Tools), continues to pave the way to more efficient, comfortable fishing. Baynard, who is on our cover this month, listens to what fishermen say and continues to add new products to meet their needs.

“One of our products that has been around a while is the Tip Saver. A two-piece set is for rods up to 12 or 14 feet and a three piece set for rods 14 to 16 feet. Rod butts are laid at one end the tips on the other. They hold eight rods with dividers to keep rods and line separated. The primary purpose is to keep rod tips from being broken and to keep lines from tangling. We also have a Rod Locker that works as a Tip Saver but also secures poles and reel with a locking system. You wouldn't leave a \$1000 wristwatch on the hood of your truck and you shouldn't leave your rods and reel unprotected while you are in a motel or eating at a restaurant.”

A new product that is just going into production is the new Crappie Stalker with an adjustable base and adjustable holder. Two major benefits are worth noting. First, a holder on its individual stem isolates it from other holders so when a fish hits it doesn't shake all the rods so it's easier to see a bite and know exactly which pole is active. The second, critical element is adjusting the holders. The bottom pivot point allows the holder to be pulled toward the fisherman so rod access is quick and easy without bending or reaching. The stem and holder can be lowered to the deck to get them out of the way. The upper pivot at the holder allows rod tips to be adjusted up or down. They are a strong, totally adjustable holder system.

“Our company started making holders in the 70's for catfish guides on Santee Cooper,” says Baynard. “We incorporated in the early 80's. Our goal is to provide products to help fishermen have exactly what they want. It's a pleasure to work and fish with fishermen. Everything we make is solving a fisherman's need. I like to think the personalized service and high quality products, built to last, sets us apart.”

For more information, go to www.driftmaster.com or www.blackrivertools.com.





Crappie Basics #161

Shallow Water

Many fishermen believe shallow water is good only in the spring. In some waters, that may be the case. However, the majority of lakes and rivers have crappie in shallow water most of the year. Their numbers will be lower than in spring. They'll also change with varying conditions, water temperature and fishing pressure, but they will be there.

The trick is paying attention to where crappie are located. For example, they may be in four to five feet of water on a southern bank with laydowns. It's important to try other similar, southern banks to learn if that is a pattern. If it is, you can continue to catch crappie by replicating the locations, presentations and baits.

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Alabama Crappie & Catfish Camp Elmore County Lake Jordan & Alabama River

by Tim Huffman



“**L**ake Jordan is one of our greatest tourist attractions and we feel it’s one of the most beautiful lakes in Alabama,” says Elmore County Commissioner, Mack Daughtery. “It has 189 miles of shoreline that draws fishermen from many miles away. Its clear water also makes it a popular destination for pleasure boaters and skiers. Hikers can enjoy the Swayback hiking trail.

“Lake Martin is the county’s biggest lake with 700 miles of shoreline. Bassmaster tournaments are held here and other species are available.”

Daughtery says Elmore County has the best of both worlds. The county is rural with large wooded areas, it’s rich in old-town history yet has new and established businesses for employment opportunities. Population is 80,000 and is the fastest growing county.

Our camp was based out of Wind Creek Casino and Hotel in Wetumpka, Alabama. The modern facility is extremely nice and the view outstanding.

The mid-April trip included good crappie

with most fish being post-spawn. However, fish were shallow and in the mid-depths. Numbers were fair during our trip but quality was high. May and June crappie should be in post-spawn mode. The suspended fish can be caught by long lining jigs in large bays and flats. River crappie will be in mid-depths moving to deeper spots as the water heats up. Fishermen and media chasing catfish had success. The fishing should remain good in late spring and summer months.

The photo pages show a few of the activities during camp and some of the local points of interest. You can read about fishing tactics in future issues of CrappieNow and CatfishNow, along with various other publications.

Bart Mercer, Elmore County Commissioner, says, “We are proud to be involved in the Alabama Crappie and Catfish Camp because we realize it’s another thing we can do to support our economic development. We want our story told and told right. We have a great place here with wonderful resources and we want people to know about it.”

For more info visit www.elmoreco.org.



ELMORE COUNTY CRAPPIE & CATFISH CAMP



ELMORE COUNTY CRAPPIE & CATFISH CAMP



WORKING SHARP CORNERS

by Vic Attardo

As I kid, I never hung out on street corners. Of course, where I came from in farm country, street corners were rarer than brown cows that gave chocolate milk and geese that laid golden eggs. But still, I always thought that street corners were dangerous places. You could be pleasantly walking along one side, turn a sharp bend, and who knows what or whom you'd run into.

If minnows could think such thoughts, they might come to the same conclusion. The bully or beast minnows confront, coming round a turn, is a hungry crappie. And since crappie apparently think this way, corners -- of any degree or measure -- are great places for them to lurk.

Corners can be defined in many ways starting with either hard or soft corners. Hard corners include things like bridge abutments, rip rap faces, dock corners, submerged hard structure and other similar structures. Soft corners could be any piece of land that starts straight then turns a sharp left or right.

There are two aspects that seem to be regular features with the majority of corners. They are: first, a change in current speed or current direction and second, a change from light to shade

or vice versa. Anglers working corners should know they will be dealing with one or the other of these features, and often both. In fact it's the features of current change and/or light and shade that make corners so attractive to crappie and crappie anglers.

Corners, particularly really sharp 90 degree corners, are where you find them

"Whenever I see a corner caused by some man-made structure, I know I'm going to fish it hard," says Pennsylvania guide Joe Turner. Turner does both his pleasure fishing and guiding on a collection of natural and enhanced lakes in the Pocono Mountains in the northeast corner of the state.

"Up here," he said, speaking to a downstater, "we've got corners all over the place. Everybody works the bigger bridges but I like the smaller stuff like where a low road comes over a culvert. If there is flow on both sides, I'm going to zero in and look for fish there."

I fished with Turner on a pleasant May day when the crappie were in the process of sliding towards shore for



some spawning duties.

“You’ve hit it right, I think,” he said. “We’ve got good water temperature (from 58 to 62 during the course of the day) and the fish are going shallow. I’ve got half a dozen corner places where they should be staging and feeding.”

The first place we hit was a wide culvert under a bridgeless section of road. The road builders had extended the cement framework of the piping between the back of a narrow bay and the continuation of the bay on the other

Hard, sharp corners include things like bridge abutments and culvert passes like the one seen in the background of this fortunate angler.

side of the road so that a sharp 90 degree corner came out some 15 feet on this larger side of the piping. In the shallows behind the road, Turner explained that a thin, high-sloped rivulet, ran down to the water which provided some current





between the two bay sections. With help from the climbing sun, a firm shadow was created on our side of the cement extension.

“Perfect,” breathed Turner as we glided up to the structure. “Here, I want you to do the honors.”

He handed me a six-foot spinning rod with a chartreuse Road Runner attached to four-pound fluorocarbon line.

“Pepper that area good. First, cast into the culvert and bring the Runner back so that it cuts the corner of the cement and then immediately edges against the shade.”

I gave the rod and lure a toss well behind the boat so I could get a feel for the equipment then I stepped to the bow, stood on the foredeck, bent low and skipped the bladed bait into the wide framework.

“Keep your rod tip low; it’s deep back there. At least three feet,” Turner said as I made the cast.

Pushing the bail over manually to prevent line twist, I slow-rolled the bait out of the drainage and toward the shade. It transected the culvert corner then immediately slid into the shade. I felt it tick something along the bottom,

Coastal rivers from North Carolina to Florida offer some amazing low lying areas where backwater shorelines create tidal humps, low but steep tidal banks and more corners than a jigsaw puzzle.

so I lifted the rod ever so slightly. Just then the tip flexed and the rod quaked with a hooked fish. I gave it a hard yank to lift the crappie from whatever entanglements might be along the bottom and in a few seconds it was splashing the surface, then thrashing in Turner’s long-handle net.

He flipped the 14-inch white crappie into the boat’s livewell, saying we’d decide later whether to hold or release.

I casted again, crossing the corner with the jig then pulling it along the edge of the shade, a corner in itself, and was rewarded with a second and on another cast a third full-size white crappie. Subsequent casts that did not bring the lure around the cement corner and into the shaded edge went unanswered. Three crappie were what we got from that spot.

“Keep them or put em back?” Turner asked me.



“Put ‘em back,” I said.

He had to ask me that question after we successfully fished two other culvert corners in different bays and also along a sharply turned bridge pilling. Since this was spawning season, I had the same answer each time.

Corners, particularly really sharp 90 degree corners, are where you find them and South Carolina tournament angler Mike Parrott found a doozie while fishing Florida’s St. John’s River. Parrott came across a classic cement bridge corner with the added attraction of wide swath of deep shade. Around the Francis Whitehair Memorial Bridge, there were all sorts of corners, all sorts of current changes and all sorts of light and dark. By dropping a jig directly into the darkness, Parrott produced knocks

Dock corners and areas of light and shade are key hiding and feeding crooks for spring crappie.

from spring crappie.

Direct vertical drops are often the tactic anglers must use to fish sharp corners. As of yet no lure manufacture has created a bait that puts on its turn signal and on its own, makes a 90 degree turn. Anglers are either compelled to horizontally transect corners as best they can, or in the case of Parrott at the bridge, make a direct vertical drop, a very effective technique when the jig is hopped through the zone.

Of course these are examples of hard structure. What about corners emanating from soft cover, such as



a crooked shoreline, in particular, a shallow crooked shoreline.

If you are using live bait and a float, you've got it made.

Coastal rivers from North Carolina to Florida, offer some amazing low lying areas where backwater shorelines create tidal humps, low but steep tidal banks, and more corners than a jigsaw puzzle.

Sometimes after a long morning fishing for big crappie with aggressive fly rod tactics, I just sit back and watch the bobber and minnow guys do their thing.

One cloudy day, I conducted a boat-to-boat interview with a pair that was banging away at fish along a recessed shoreline. Their answers were actually the original inspiration for this story.

"What do you have back there," I yelled across to the two anglers as one of them reeled in another crappie.

"Some kind of corner pocket," replied one of the two.

To paraphrase the rest of the conversation, they were working shallow water with a sharp turn where the current ran over one edge and dropped into some slightly deeper water on the other side.

"It's like a swinging door," one of them explained.

In point of fact, they had to cast and then pull their float baits around the edge of the turn, lengthwise, and when they completed the turn their floats dipped hard. "If we can't make the hard turn, we don't get bit," one said.

I spent some time enjoying their action and taking long distance photographs. I wouldn't have wanted to disrupt their fun any further. You never know what trouble you might run into on a distant corner.

 - Vic Attardo



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Tip of the Month: Power Trolling

by John Harrison

Fishing can be good here at Grenada after the spawn. Late May and early June can be an excellent time. We catch numbers of fish by power trolling. We use a 1-ounce sinker and Bobby Garland Baits. Last year we caught a ton of fish. They left the banks and were suspended. The power trolling lets a fisherman cover a lot of water with the baits in the strike zone.

We catch the same fish in the summer but they weigh less than during the spawn. A two pounder will probably weigh 1.60 to 1.70 pounds. We caught an 18 inch fish last summer and it weighed 2.64 pounds. I've never caught a three pounder in the summer and only a very few in the fall. However, the fishing can be great with good numbers of quality fish.

John Harrison owns JH Guide Service and has fished tournaments since 2004. He is sponsored by BnM Poles, War Eagle and others. (Facebook or phone 662-983-5999)



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CRAPPIE GEAR

Lew's Wally Marshall Signature Series Crappie Rods

Wally Marshall Signature Series Crappie Rods were designed as sensitive jigging poles. They are great for this technique but they also have a following with the slow troll (spider rigging) crowd, too.

Pro staff member, Keith Mueller, says, "I use 16-foot Signature Series poles because they are the best pole I've used. They feature a tip action that is light and sensitive. That's really important for seeing light bites. However, the backbone is strong enough so a fisherman can work a fish."

Mueller says the long 16-foot poles are more difficult to use but worth the effort. The longer pole catches more fish because the fish see the baits before they are spooked by the boat. The longer poles become critical when fishing shallow water.

"The poles are an investment so I don't lay them in the floor where they can be stepped on or damaged. I place them in a rod holding system that keeps them supported, keeps lines from tangling and allows me to lock them. Locking is important when at a restaurant or motel."

Final tip. "Use the lightest weight possible," says Mueller. "With a lighter weight a fisherman will get more bites he can see. To me, light weight slow trolling is a 1/4-ounce weight plus a jig. When wind is bouncing the boat, it's time to increase to a 3/4-ounce weight so the bait won't bounce as much."

Pole stats include premium IM6 graphite, lightweight graphite reel seat, comfortable EVA foam grips, hard aluminum oxide guides, and designed for light line and small jigs. The 16-foot model suggested retail is \$69.99 and the 14-foot model \$59.99. www.lews.com



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American Crappie Trail

by Ron Wong

How Did the Top Teams Catch Their Fish?



Stained to muddy water greeted the American Crappie Trail anglers at Ross Barnett Lake (better known as The Rez). Surface temps ranged from the high 50's to very low 60's. The water was rough both days with Friday being better than Saturday with 12 to 15 mph winds out of the southeast creating white caps on the lake taking away some of fishable water. The winds didn't seem to hamper the top teams' efforts.

Ronnie Capps and Steve Coleman led wire to wire to take the win catching 28.16 pounds. They found a spawning area in the mid to upper lake that was 5 feet deep, hard bottom, and laden with stumps and lay-down logs with muddy to stained colored water. Using 14'

B'n'M BGJP trolling poles, they used a single Ronnie Capps signature Pro Built jig (prototype jig to be released in a couple of months) rigged with either a blue/purple Mid-South tube or Crappie Magnet. These lures were tipped with a wax worm. They felt the scent of the wax worm was a major key to getting the bites in the stained water. They spider-rigged their baits 3 ½ to 4 feet deep while only moving inches at a time and sometimes sitting still for minutes.

The second place father-son team of Whitey and Matt Outlaw fished along the Pearl River targeting ledges 8 to 18 feet deep. They caught 27.40 pounds. The team spider-rigged double bait rigs on top of the ledges close to the bottom. Four poles were rigged with just



minnows and the other 4 poles had both a Rockport Rattl'r and Whitey Outlaw signature Pro Built jig (to be available in May). The jigs were rigged with pink-chartreuse Crappie Magnets or black/pink Mid-South tubes. Small minnows were used on all hooks for a better hookup ratio with the small baits. They moved very slowly over stumps and logs lying along the ledges, most of the time as slow as 0.25 mph.

The team of Tim Eberly and George Parker finished in 3rd place with 27.08 pounds. They found their fish in two different areas. One of the areas was along the Pearl River above the highway 43 bridge with ledges from 4 to 12 feet deep laden with stumps. The other area was a mid-lake hump that was 9 feet deep with stumps and surrounded by 18 feet of water. They spider-rigged Skipper jigs rigged with green-chartreuse Strike King Jokers tipped with small minnows. Slow movement was a key factor and they used both Power Pole Paddles and dragged a logging chain to stay

slow on the lake.

The general consensus of all teams was that many of the black crappie had spawned while the white crappies have yet to spawn. The majority of white female crappie that was weighed showed bellies full of eggs. Big fish of the tournament was caught by the Capps/Coleman team weighed 3.01 pounds.



More ACT

by Tim Huffman

“The 2018 season is good, as can be seen here at Ross Barnett,” says ACT co-founder, Matt Morgan. “I appreciate all the fishermen coming here to compete. It takes time for a new trail to prove itself and we’re seeing growth. I’m proud to say, that to my knowledge, this tournament has the largest payout of any qualifier tournament in history. Our sponsors are responsible for that.”

Morgan says his 52 team draw at Neely Henry was not unexpected since it is further away for many of the teams, but he wanted to bring something closer to the eastern teams. Plus, it introduced his trail to new teams in the Carolinas and Georgia.

“Ross Barnett is on my list of the top three lakes in the country,” says Morgan. “It receives heavier fishing pressure than it did ten years ago and fishermen are more efficient and skilled now with the addition of better electronics. So the number of really big fish may be down, but the overall numbers of fish here is incredible and a limit can include several fish over two pounds. There are a lot of fish over 2.25 being weighed in with several over 2.50 pounds and at least one over three pounds on just the first day here.

“The lake doesn’t have a length limit and it has a creel limit of 30. Changes come slow but this is a lake that would probably benefit greatly with some limits like Grenada and other big fish lakes in the state. It’s always a balance between what a lake needs verses the economic impact and resistance that a change might bring.

“A sleeper this year on the trail is the Ouachita River. Fishermen are getting excited the more they hear about it. It’s true



a new lake or river means learning a new body of water, but it’s equal for everyone and it’s part of the competition. Our off-limits rule gives everyone an opportunity for equal practice time. Some fishermen are reluctant to compete against Capps and Coleman and other good teams. These fishermen are good, but the right stump, brushpile or ledge is all it takes to beat them.”

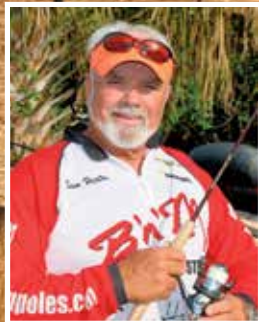
Ridgeland, MS

“It’s great to have the American Crappie Trail here in Ridgeland, Mississippi,” says Mina Thorgeson, Ridgeland Tourism. “Ross Barnett, the “Rez” as we call it here, is a beautiful reservoir that is used year round for fishing and recreation. We have major bass tournaments, local crappie tournaments and now a national qualifier crappie tournament. We love to showcase our area, outdoor lifestyle and of course our shopping. For hungry fishermen, we have over 140 restaurants. We know it’s the first time here for many of these fishermen so we welcome them and look forward to seeing them again.” For more information about Ridgeland: www.visitridgeland.com



BnM How To May with
Brad Whitehead - Jig Fishing

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.



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Crappie Basics #162**Sticking with a Good Spot**

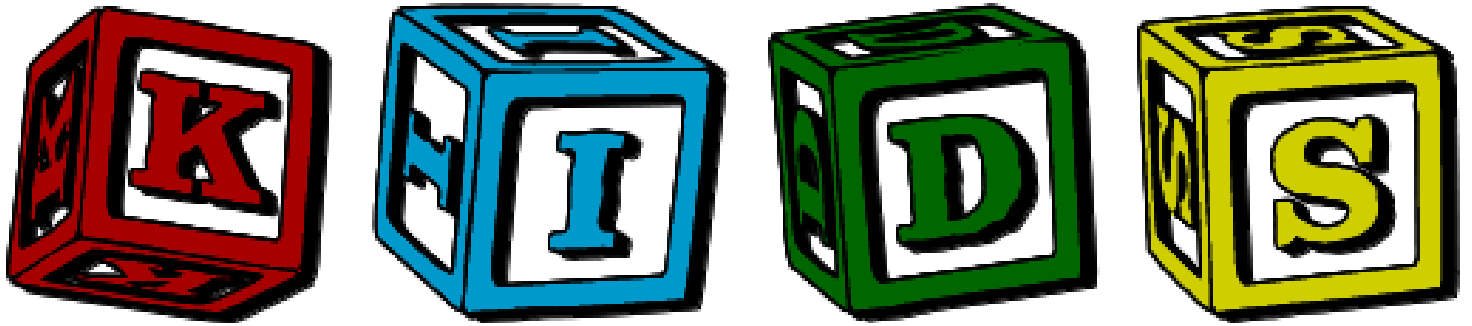
You been catching fish in an area but a change in water temperature, water elevation or other factor has changed fishing to a no-catch situation. Don't leave a known area too quickly. There are two tactics to try.

First, fish the same spots but slow the presentation. Lethargic fish may still be there but not in a hurry to take a bait. A fisherman may have to tease and annoy the fish to draw a strike. Another trick is to downsize baits. Go to a smaller minnow or jig.

The second trick is to go to deeper water. If fish were in the five foot range, move out to seven to ten feet. The changing conditions may have moved the fish out to deeper water. Usually, crappie won't make huge moves in one day, but rather drop down to deeper water, move tighter to cover, or some similar move.
-TH



CRAPPIE



South Carolina Aquatic Education

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Education Section's mission is to serve as the principal advocate for the steward of South Carolina's natural resources. They strive to educate the public on recreational fishing techniques, opportunities and angler ethics, along with provide information to learn about SC's aquatic ecosystems, how they function and the biology and identification of the species within these ecosystems.

Youth Fishing Rodeos

Rodeos provide the opportunity for youngsters to learn and catch fish. Youth ages six to 15 must be accompanied by an adult. The website has all information on upcoming events. Events are sponsored by Academy Sports & Outdoors.

Family Fishing Clinics

A clinic is an introductory class to fishing. Family Fishing Clinics will teach skills on how to tie fishing knots, how to rig a rod and reel, casting and first-hand experience at catching fish. All ages are welcome to come out and play, enjoy the outdoors and make this a fun family day. Check website for dates/places.

The Rodeos and Family Fishing Clinics are in full swing so check them out now. For more information go to SCDNR website and to Aquatic Education, or call 803-737-8483.



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

Shown with optional OR12IPEK Tackle Flag Kit

The advertisement features a yellow fishing board with a red flag kit. The board has 'OFF SHORE TACKLE' and 'SIDE-PLATE LEFT' printed on it. The flag kit consists of several red flags on poles. Social media icons for YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter are visible at the bottom.

OFF SHORE TACKLE

YouTube Facebook Twitter

www.offshoretackle.com

PRODUCT REVIEW

Scales



Catching a three-pound crappie and not weighing it is like shooting a 190 whitetail buck and not letting anyone score it. A fisherman may truly believe he has a three-pound fish but most of the time he is wrong. So, there are two theories for weighing a fish.

First, never never ever put a fish on a scale unless you want to know its true weight. You can continue to guess the 1.50 pound fish to be 2.00, 2.25 or 2.50. Just don't expect fishermen to believe you unless it's weighed.

Option two, weigh it so you have definite proof that your 2.0-pound fish really weighs 2.0. Put it on the scales if you want to claim it and brag a little.

Part of the weighing process is having an accurate, dependable scale. The three scales described here were provided for photos and testing.

Similar Features

The three scales tested are comfortable to hold and they have a built-in thermometer for

air temperature. Button functions vary slightly but they are straight-forward and easy to understand including On, Reset, Hold and Mode. Automatic shut-offs range from around one to four minutes so if a fisherman forgets to turn it off it will shut down automatically to conserve the batteries. None of these had cases but I recommend some type generic hard or soft case for overall protection and to avoid accidentally having buttons pushed during storage.

Baker ES30

Baker Products

The Baker has an easy-to-grip style that works great for fish in the crappie's weight class. Internal memory stores up to ten weights so you can show your friends, or for tournament fishermen, match it to a cull system.

The ES30 weighs up to 30 pounds so other species can be weighed. It has what the others don't, a light at the base to illuminate fish or culling floats during night or low light.

Uses two AAA batteries.

Don't like: Readings carried out to one digit less than other two models. Also reads in KG and Ounces, but not pounds.

Like: The off button is recessed making it less likely to turn on in your tacklebox. It has additional light, four minute turn-off delay and good price point.

Nice choice for the price.

MSRP: \$24.99

Ardent Digital Scale

Ardent www.ardentreels.com

The Ardent scale measures up to 55 pounds, more than needed for crappie but good as a versatile scale for other species, too. It has a good look and is easy to use.

This unit has a Tare option for using a weigh bag, gripper or other method (is zero'ed with the bag or gripper before weighing the fish).

It has a quick auto turn-off so you can't mess around too long to weigh the fish after turning it on. However, this function saves battery life.

The unit operates on one CR2032 battery.

Don't like: The hook for the fish is small, but that's not much to complain about.

Like: Biggest advantage is compact size



and easy storage. Perfect for crappie. Reads in kg, lbs, oz, and accuracy to 1/100.

Great pick for economical, easy to store scale.

MSRP \$29.99

ConnectScale

ConnectScale www.connectscale.com

Techies will love this one. It can be paired with a phone App to keep tabs of your catches. It's great for tournament fishermen keeping up with weights. An advanced filter can also help show patterns. Auto logs weight, date, time, air temperature and GPS location. ConnectScale says "Clean, simple and easy to use interface."

The unit is advanced but it's easy to use for standard weighing of fish, too.

The unit is FCC, IC & Bluetooth SIG Certified. Requires two AAA batteries.

Don't like: The readout requires it to be held higher than eye level; not a big deal but could be easier.

Like: The accuracy and available connectivity; and tagging systems. Comfortable overall size.

This one is a top pick for a quality weighing system with Bluetooth.

MSRP \$79.99 with gripper



Crappie from the Oven

Scampi, or Langoustines or Norway lobsters (*Nephrops norvegicus*) are roughly the size of a large crayfish and fished from silty bottom regions of the open Atlantic Ocean and parts of the Mediterranean. The fleshy tail of the Norway lobster is closer in both taste and texture to lobster and crayfish than prawn or shrimp.

Scampi is the Italian plural of scampo, *Nephrops norvegicus*. In English, scampi is used as singular, plural, or uncountable. Overfishing made scampi scarce and because of scarcity Italy, Greece, United Kingdom and Spain would often substitute shrimp in scampi.

In the United States, shrimp scampi is the menu name for shrimp in Italian-American cuisine. Scampi by itself is a dish of Norway lobsters served in garlic butter and dry white wine, served either with bread, bread crumbs or over pasta or rice, although sometimes served just shrimp alone. The word shrimp scampi is construed as a style of preparation and with variants such as chicken scampi, lobster scampi, scallop scampi and fish scampi. In the United States, shrimps are readily available but not scampi, so the early immigrants substituted shrimp in the scampi style they remembered from their home country.

Using garlic, butter and bread crumbs, and a little wine if you like, we're making crappie scampi; scampi as a style of preparation.

Crappie Scampi

Crappie fillets, enough to cover
2-quart casserole dish with no overlap
1/4 cup dry white wine (optional -
sauvignon blanc goes well with garlic)
Juice of 1 or 2 crushed garlic cloves
1/2 stick melted butter
Bread crumbs
Salt and pepper to taste

Spray non-stick oil on casserole dish and spread fillets evenly. Add wine and drizzle crushed garlic juice on fish through a garlic press. Sprinkle bread crumbs on fish, season with salt and pepper. Broil until slightly browned.

Tip: If you soak any fish in vinegar and water for a few minutes before cooking, it will be flakier and have a better flavor.

Baked Cajun Crappie

8 crappie fillets
1 stick butter
Salt & pepper to taste
Cajun seasoning to taste
4 sprigs fresh parsley, chopped
Juice of 1 lemon

Coat the bottom of an oven proof pan with butter. Place crappie fillets in pan, pour melted butter over the crappies and sprinkle each filet with Cajun seasoning and the chopped parsley. Bake at 400 degrees F. until the fish are done, turning half way through the 20 minutes in the oven. When you remove the crappies from the oven, sprinkle them liberally with lemon juice. Serves 4.

Cajun Seasoning

3/4 cup of salt
1/4 cup cayenne pepper
2 tablespoons paprika
2 tablespoons garlic powder
2 tablespoons onion powder
2 tablespoons ground white pepper
2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper

Shake the ingredients together in a sealed bag. Taste-test your seasoning to tell whether you want to add more of an ingredient or add another. Save the plastic

containers the spices came in to store your Cajun seasoning. Re-label the containers.

Tip: Don't crowd your pans. Food that's crowded into a cast-iron skillet or cooking sheet gets steamed and soggy instead of crisp.

Crispy Crappie

- 2 pounds crappie fillets
- 2 teaspoons of garlic salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons onion powder
- 2 cup Ritz crackers, finely crushed
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup beer
- Canola oil

Thoroughly mix garlic salt and onion powder. Sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon over crappie fillets. Mix remaining garlic-onion powder seasoning into crushed cracker crumbs. Make wash by beating egg into the beer. Dip fish fillets in wash and then into cracker crumbs to coat fillets. Heat 1/4- inch of oil to 375 degrees F. one side, turn and fry on other side until golden brown or flakes with a fork.



CAROLINA CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION

LAKE JORDAN

MARCH 23rd - 24th

1. Bundrick/Bundrick	22.31
2. Hawkins/McGuirt	21.54
3. Quan/Grimm	21.48
4. Danque/Willard	20.91
5. Eudy/Koontz	20.26

BIG FISH

1. Hawkins/McGuirt	1.94
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CRAPPIE MASTERS

GRENADA LAKE

MARCH 23rd - 24th

1. Rick Fajen/Earnie Cox	32.96
2. Vic Finkley/Kim Kennedy	31.77
3. Barry Morrow/Chad Maupin	28.44
4. Dale Abernathy/Eric Stover	26.65
5. Paul Turner/Elizabeth Turner	26.65

BIG FISH

1. Vic Finkley/Kim Kennedy	3.15
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MALE/FEMALE

1. Vic Finkley/Kim Kennedy	31.77
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ADULT/YOUTH

1. Jason Eichwurtzle/Parker Eichwurtzle	15.52
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CRAPPIE USA

OLD HICKORY LAKE

MARCH 23rd - 24th

AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Mike Wantz/Rusty Byard	18.6
2. Rudy Bostelman/Robert Gleaves	18.53
3. Richard Wright/Wayne Adams	16.42
4. Gregory Oaks/Shane Yocum	16.37
5. Wayne Goodall	16

PRO DIVISION

1. Steve Ferguson/Daniel Harper	22.55
2. Harold Maddux/Brian Oldham	21.06
3. Shawn Gore/Joey Peck	20.27
4. Dale Thompson/Eddie Milby	18.42
5. Robert Harris/Richard Greer	17.5

BIG FISH

1. Mike Wantz/Rusty Byard	2.25
---------------------------	------

COOSA RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB

WEISS LAKE

MARCH 24th

1. Dion Brewster/Henry Russell	9.94
2. Matt Chambers/Bill Quick	9.82
3. Gary Kendrick/Barbara Kendrick	8.45
4. Paul Whorton	7.61
5. Phil Trapp/Joe Hayes	7.49

BIG FISH

1. Dion Brewster/Henry Russell	2.4
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FLORIDA CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE WALK N WATER

MARCH 24th

1. Sam Cooper	7.34
2. Bill Bradley/Mike	6.15
3. Gary/Jim	6.03
4. Bobby Hill	6.028
5. Scott Lawson	6.026

BIG FISH

1. Sam Cooper	1.02
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PEACH STATE CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE BLACKSHEAR

MARCH 24th

1. Tim Fowler/Steve Hart	9.8
2. Mike Nipper/Ethan Nipper	9.67
3. Jacob Sapp/Scott Williams	8.68
4. Tim Langham/Bubba Norris	8.42
5. Lamar Young/Justin Churchwell	7.93

BIG FISH

1. Mike Nipper/Ethan Nipper	1.78
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SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE SANGCHRIS

MARCH 24th

1. Ray Loveall/Dennis Loveall	8.11
2. Jerry Jallas/Carlo Catalano	7.87
3. Brian Bentley/Keith Walker	7.71

BIG FISH

1. Brian Bentley/Keith Walker	1.68
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WAPPAPELLO CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE WAPPAPELLO

MARCH 24th

1. Harty/Owens	8.01
2. Chism/Chism	7.63
3. Green/Green	7.29
4. Campbell/Fox	5.16
5. Sifford/Norris	4.64

BIG FISH

1. Green/Green	2.33
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CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

CLINTON LAKE

MARCH 25th

1. Trudeau/Trudeau	4.57
2. Zehr/Nugent	4.57
3. Nast/Reynolds	4.03
4. Davis/Wilson	4.02
5. Foley	3.99

BIG FISH

1. Mike Peck/McCullough	0.88
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CRAPPIE USA

PICKWICK/WILSON

MARCH 31st**AMATEUR DIVISION**

1. Matthew Tosh/Caleb Tosh	11.17
2. Robert Massey/Todd Dalton	10.68
3. Chad Brooks/John Childers	10.04
4. Wayne Dickey/Billy Dickey	9.68
5. Will Counts/Kyle Moody	9.24

PRO DIVISION

1. Henry Haley/Jo Haley	13.2
2. Larry Sisson/David Sisson	12.91
3. Bart Gillon/Steve Coleman	12.53
4. Shane Moore/John Eubanks	12.07
5. TJ Todd/Brian Hatch	11.13

BIG FISH

1. Larry Sisson/David Sisson	3.08
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HOI CRAPPIE CLUB

CLINTON LAKE

MARCH 31st

1. Davis/Montooth	6.3
2. Stoddard/Little	5.8
3. Dowdy/Boring	5.06

BIG FISH

1. Davis/Montooth	1.47
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INDIANA SLAB MASTERS

PATOKA LAKE

MARCH 31st

1. Bob Raymer/Kirt Wyman	4.12
2. Larry Yates/Doug Allen	3.43
3. Rodney Hiler/Lloyd Hiler	2.85
4. Colt Barnes/Troy Murphy	2.53
5. Don Reckelhoff/Ed Ploetner	2.47

BIG FISH

1. Larry Yates/Doug Allen	1.83
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CRAPPIE MASTERS

LAKE FORK

APRIL 7th

1. David Cox/Steve Hockett	13.94
2. Charles Rogers/Kevin Rogers	13.57
3. Rayan German/Howard German	12.9
4. Carl Ellis/Anh Nguyen	12.22
5. Mark McClure/Frank Haidusek	12.12

BIG FISH

1. Kevin Pitts/Travis Mace	2.66
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MALE/FEMALE

1. Paul Turner/Elizabeth Turner	11.52
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CRAPPIE USA

CUMBERLAND LAKE

APRIL 7th

AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Will Rogers/Eric Kersey	9.48
2. Cliff Rogers/Andy Tucker	9.14
3. Darrell Pigg/Doug Parker	9.06
4. Craig Delk/Chris Morgan	8.4
5. Anthony Marlow/Gary Brummett	8.36

PRO DIVISION

1. Joseph Aaron/Will	12.38
2. Lynn Cochran/Nathan Cochran	11.19
3. Jason Koesters/Jake Hengstler	10.43
4. Kris Mann/Terry Mann	8.54
5. Greg Rutschilling/Matt Wente	7.53

BIG FISH

1. Justin Creech/Zeke Reynolds	2.35
2. Joseph Aaron/Will	2.34

EASTERN MO CRAPPIE CLUB

MARK TWAIN LAKE

APRIL 7th

1. Gerner/McGuire	6.2
2. Lindsey/Wilkinson	5.55
3. Garrett/Garrett/Garrett	5.44
4. Bosley/Gilchrist	5.27
5. Orf/Orf	4.96

BIG FISH

1. Meyer/Meyer	1.36
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THE SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE SPRINGFIELD

APRIL 7th

- 1. Mike Rockford/Danny Rockford 4.22
- 2. Zack Pierce/Sammy Wright 2.78
- 3. Jerry Jallas/Carlo Catalano 1.34
- 4. Greg Stimac/Cole Stimac 1.27

BIG FISH

- 1. Mike Rockford/Danny Rockford 1.04

CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB

CHESTER FROST PARK

APRIL 8th

- 1. TD Smith/Chris James 9.78
- 2. Brian Howard/Mike Johnston 9.77
- 3. Jim Edmister/Jason Morrison 8.9

BIG FISH

- 1. Allen Baugh 2.31



2018 Crappie USA Trail

crappie
USA

Schedule of Events

Logan Martin, AL	02/17/18
Weiss Lake, AL	02/24/18
Lake Wylie, NC	03/03/18
TennTom, MS	03/03/18
Lake Guntersville, AL	03/10/18
Lake of Egypt, IL	03/16-17/18
Old Hickory, TN	03/23-24/18
Pickwick Wilson, AL	03/31/18
Lk Cumberland, KY	04/07/18
Barkley-Ky Lakes, KY	04/13-14/18
Green River Lake, KY	04/20-21/18
Gmd Lk St Marys, OH	04/27-28/18
Cave Run, KY	05/04-05/18
Miss.-Sal, IN	05/12/18
Monroe, IN	05/19/18
Carlyle, IL	09/22/18
2019 Early Bird @ Barkley-KY Lakes, KY	11/02-03/18

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Louisville, KY 40209
502-384-5924
www.crappieusa.com

Facebook

2018 Crappie USA Classic
Lake Cumberland - Somerset, KY 10/3-6/2018

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE OF EGYPT

APRIL 8th

1. Hess/Lutchka	12.65
2. Mavigliano/Olson	10.32
3. Wehner/Wehner	9.87
4. Troyer/Kosh	9.28
5. Drury/Onhiser	9.08

BIG FISH

1. Hess/Lutchka	2.31
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CRAPPIE USA

BARCLAY/KENTUCKY LAKES

APRIL 13th - 14th

AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Marshall Stearns/Ray Stearns	18.31
2. Jeff Lang Jr/Jeff Lang Sr	17.72
3. Sean Baskin/Jimmy Temple	17.39
4. Doyle Milby/Sonny Milby	16.34
5. Joey Clark/Jeremy Jones	15.39

PRO DIVISION

1. Henry Haley/Jo Haley	20.28
2. Jim Freeman/Roy (Doc) Holiday	18.44
3. Tony Sheppard/Mike Sheppard	18.42
4. Shawn Gore/Joey Peck	18.31
5. Danny Todd/Sammy Tidwell	18.15

BIG FISH

1. Jay Harris/James Welker	2.34
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BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION

BEAVER LAKE

APRIL 14th

1. Brad/Ronnie	7.19
2. Hunter/Jordan	6.83
3. Ron/Jerry	6.6
4. Matt/Rance	6.49
5. Seth	6.11

BIG FISH

1. Seth	1.84
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CENTRAL ALABAMA CRAPPIE CLUB

LAKE MITCHELL

APRIL 14th

1. Jamie Heflin/James Heflin	9.17
2. Eric Cagle/Wade McDonald	8.59
3. Brandon Threadgill/Jason Threadgill	4.85

BIG FISH

1. Jamie Heflin/James Heflin	1.7
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CENTRAL ARKANSAS CRAPPIE ASSOC.

LAKE DEGRAY

APRIL 14th

1. Oscar Chambers/Megan Chambers	10.14
2. Monty Havens/Eric Havens	9.96
3. Chris Head/Hunter Collie	9.41
4. Jeff Handy/Chris Williams	9.12
5. Kent Williams	8.45

BIG FISH

1. Jeff Handy/Chris Williams	1.88
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CRAPPIE MASTERS

LAKE OF THE OZARKS

APRIL 14th

1. Barry Morrow/Chad Maupin	12.54
2. Jackie Linton/Holly Linton	11.77
3. Tommy Skarlis/Mike Baker	11.12
4. Viv Finkley/Kim Kennedy	10.29
5. David Simmons/James Davidson	10.21

BIG FISH

1. Brent Billings/Brad Moore	2.07
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MALE FEMALE

1. Jackie Linton/Holly Linton	1.77
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ADULT/YOUTH

1. Travis Bullock/Keegan Bullock	7.42
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NORTHEAST OHIO CRAPPIE CLUB

MISQUITO LAKE

APRIL 14th

1. Brad/Brandon	9.12
2. Bob/Bob	8.08
3. Bill/Chad	6.15
4. Luke/Matt	6
5. Brock/Brian	5.3

BIG FISH

1. Bob/Bob	1.62
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PEACH STATE CRAPPIE CLUB

OCONEE

APRIL 15th

1. Scott Williams/Jacob Sapp	9.97
2. Ricky Burgamy/Randy Temples	9.9
3. Troy Thiele/Ricky Willis	9.75
4. Paul Johnson/Greg Hanson/Jackson Han- son	9.3
5. Ricky Cone/David Allen	9.29

BIG FISH

1. Ricky Cone/David Allen	2.02
---------------------------	------

WAPPAPELLO CRAPPIE CLUB

WAPPAPELLO LAKE

APRIL 14th

1. Brown/Emerson	8.34
2. Fields/Alberson	6.81
3. Conner/Guiling	6.44
4. Thompson/Thompson	6.2
5. Roper/Miller	6.05

BIG FISH

1. Younger/Trop	1.94
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CENTRAL ILLINOIS CRAPPIE CLUB

CLINTON LAKE

APRIL 15th

1. Reynolds/Nast	4.91
2. Clifton Sarko	4.82
3. Lappin/Eller	4.57
4. Carr/Cox	4.56
5. Zschau/Zschau	4.52

BIG FISH

1. Holzner/Logsdon	1.14
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GRAND LAKES CRAPPIE SERIES

GRAND LAKES

APRIL 15th

1. John Pruitt/Bruce Menchofer	8.94
2. Joe Vanover/Troy Zimmerman	6.88
3. Jeff Toben/Mike Bell	6.39
4. Max Stewart/Chad Creamens	5.99
5. Daniel Reed/Chris Mangen	5.5

AMERICAN CRAPPIE TRAIL

ROSS BARNETT RESERVOIR

APRIL 20th - 21st

1. Ronnie Capps/Steve Coleman	28.16
2. Whitey Outlaw/Matthew Outlaw	27.4
3. George Parker/Tim Eberly	27.08
4. William Shelton/Nolan Beck	25.57
5. Daniel Porter/Jeremy Aldridge	24.84

BIG FISH

1. Ronnie Capps/Steve Coleman	3.01
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- Zero Reverse one-way clutch



Mr. Crappie Slab Shaker Rods

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- Lightweight EVA grips
- Aluminum oxide guides



Mr. Crappie Slab Shaker Spinning Combo

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- Thin, compact gear box
- Pre-spoiled with Mr. Crappie HiVis line
- Graphite composite rods with split grip handle



MR. CRAPPIE Slab Shaker™

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CRAPPIE CALENDAR

MAY	4th - 5th	CRAPPIE USA	CAVE RUN LAKE	SUPER EVENT
MAY	5th	CENTRAL ARKANSAS CRAPPIE ASSOC	LAKE DARDANELLA	CLUB
MAY	5th	COOSA RIVER CRAPPIE CLUB	WEISS LAKE	KIDS FISHING DAY
MAY	5th	CRAPPIE MASTERS	REND LAKE	NATIONAL QUALIFIER
MAY	5th	HOI CRAPPIE CLUB	SPRING LAKE	OPEN
MAY	5th	NORTHEAST OHIO	WEST BRANCH	CLASSIC
MAY	5th	SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE	LAKE SPRINGFIELD	CLUB
MAY	5th - 6th	INDIANA SLAB MASTERS	MISSISSINEWA/SALAMONIE	SUPER EVENT
MAY	6th	CHATTANOOGA CRAPPIE CLUB	CHESTER FROST PARK	CLUB
MAY	11th - 12th	CRAPPIE MASTERS	ALABAMA RIVER	Final Leg AL ST Champ
MAY	12th	BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE ASSOC.	BEAVER LAKE	CLUB
MAY	12th	CENTRAL ILLINOIS	LAKE SHELBYVILLE/Sullivan Moultrie	CLASSIC/OPEN
MAY	12th	CRAPPIE ANGLERS OF TEXAS	LAKE LAVON	JR ANGLER
MAY	12th	CRAPPIE USA	MISSISSINEWA.SALAMONIE	CLUB
MAY	12th	EASTERN MO CRAPPIE CLUB	MARK TWAIN LAKE	ADULT/YOUTH
MAY	12th	KANSAS CRAPPIE CLUB	HILLSDALE LAKE	CLUB
MAY	12th	TWIN LAKES	LITTLE RIVER	SHOOTOUT
MAY	12th	WAPPAPELLO	WAPPAPELLO LAKE	CLUB
MAY	13th	GRAND LAKES CRAPPIE SERIES	GRAND LAKES	CLUB
MAY	18th - 19th	AMERICAN CRAPPIE TRAIL	KENTUCKY LAKE	TRAIL
MAY	19th	CRAPPIE MASTERS	TRUMAN LAKE	BIG CRAPPIE CHALLENGE
MAY	19th	CRAPPIE USA	MONROE LAKE	TRAIL
MAY	19th	HOI CRAPPIE CLUB	EVERGREEN	OPEN
MAY	19th	MAGNOLIA	ENID	CLUB
MAY	19th	MIDDLE TENNESSEE	WOODS RESERVOIR	CLUB
MAY	19th	NORTHEAST OHIO	PORTAGE LAKES	CLUB
MAY	19th	PEACH STATE	CLARKS HILL	CLUB
MAY	19th	SHOALS CRAPPIE	CEDAR CREEK	CLUB
MAY	19th	SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE	LAKE SHELBYVILLE	CRAPPIE BASH/OPEN
MAY	20th	CENTRAL ILLINOIS	LAKE SHELBYVILLE	CLUB
MAY	20th	GRAND LAKES CRAPPIE SERIES	GRAND LAKES	CLUB
MAY	20th	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	REND LAKE	CLUB
MAY	26th	CENTRAL ALABAMA CRAPPIE CLUB	ALABAMA RIVER/SWIFT CREEK	CLUB
MAY	26th	NORTHEAST GEORGIA	GILLS POINT	CLASSIC
JUNE	1st- 2nd	CRAPPIE USA	GREEN RIVER LAKES	TRAIL
JUNE	2nd	INDIANA SLAB MASTERS	MONROE LAKE	CLUB
JUNE	2nd - 3rd	CENTRAL ARKANSAS CRAPPIE ASSOC	TBA	CHAMPIONSHIP
JUNE	2nd - 3rd	NORTHEAST OHIO	MISQUITO LAKE	2 DAY CHALLENGE
JUNE	3rd	CENTRAL ILLINOIS	TBD	CLUB
JUNE	3rd	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	OHIO RIVER	CLUB

Club	Contact	Link
AMERICAN CRAPPIE TRAIL	MATT MORGAN	FACEBOOK
BEAVER LAKE CRAPPIE CLUB	PAYTON USERY	FACEBOOK
CAPITOL CRAPPIE CLUB	AUSTIN KNEESKERN	FACEBOOK
CAROLINA CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION	RICK EUDY	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
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	MATT	FACEBOOK
EAST TEXAS CRAPPIE SERIES	CREEKSIDE SPORTS-903-849-2634	FACEBOOK
EASTERN MISSOURI CRAPPIE CLUB	STEVE PEROTTO	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	JOE BRAGG/FRANK HAIDUSEK	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	FACEBOOK
OKLAHOMA CRAPPIE TRAIL	DARRELL AND BRIAN	FACEBOOK
PEACH STATE CRAPPIE CLUB	ROBERT SMITH	FACEBOOK
SHOALS AREA CRAPPIE ASSOCIATION	KEITH DODD	FACEBOOK
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CRAPPIE	CHAD HAMSON	FACEBOOK
SOUTHWEST MISSOURI CRAPPIE	KERRY YATES	FACEBOOK
GA SLABMASTERS TOURNAMENT TRAIL	JAMIE MOORE/DAN SIDLE	FACEBOOK
SPRINGFIELD CRAPPIE CLUB IL	JERRY JALLAS/RICK MONTTOOTH	FACEBOOK
TWIN LAKES CRAPPIE CLUB		FACEBOOK
WAPPAPELLO CRAPPIE CLUB MO		FaceBook



Photo Contest



1st Place This Month!

Jeff Strametz
16" Crappie on a Luckycraft RC suspending jerkbait
Coyote Lake, Gilroy CA

Photo Contest



Honorable Mention

Adam Hammonds
16 inch white crappie Alabama river
Autaugaville 3.2 lbs



Don't forget to send in your recent photo by the 15th.

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 more details.

Fishing Funny's

by Jonny Hawkins



"NO THANKS. I DON'T NEED AN OUTBOARD MOTOR."





Goodbye until next issue.

On the Banks of the Alabama River
photo by Tim Huffman