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ORCA is a voluntary,
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association



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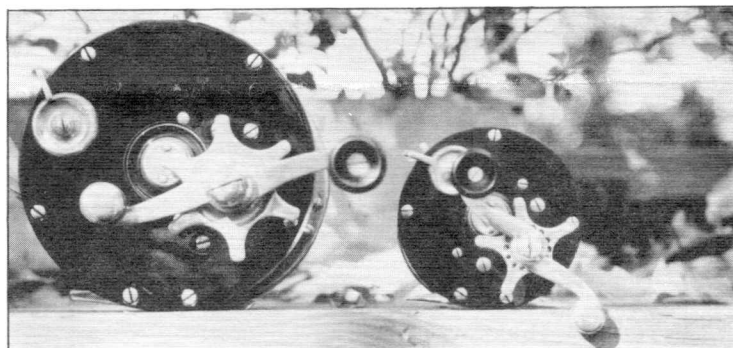
PREMIER ISSUE OF THE OLD REEL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Word From Weirton. . .

The primary reason I decided to form ORCA was to provide a nationwide listing of reel collectors to further trading and the exchange of information. Hopefully, you will agree that the publication of this premier membership roster is a giant step in that direction.

At the suggestion of many collectors, some of whom helped start other clubs, I have established myself in the role of "benevolent dictator" of ORCA until we get the club off the ground. Such a form of governance will allow us time to build up membership and draft bylaws (and eventually elect officers) without the burden of cumbersome parliamentary proceedings, dictatorship being so efficient a form of rule. I pledge to account annually in writing for every penny that comes and goes (our membership roster should expand and allow us greater budget leeway) and to act in a fiduciary role with our membership. Anyone who has any complaints will have his or her annual dues refunded promptly and without question by me.

My reign will differ from that of Idi Amin's in two basic ways. First, I am not as fat as Uganda's deposed despot, though I'm gaining on him fast. Secondly, and more importantly, I really want input from members. Any ORCA



Pictured are two beautiful Edward vom Hofe reels from the collection of ORCA member Bruce Wilson. On the left is size 9/0, #621; the other is a smaller size 1/0, #650. According to a recent article by reel expert Jim Brown, Edward vom Hofe (1846-1920) was the youngest son of the famous reel-making family, and was in turn succeeded in business by his son, Edwin.

member who goes to an auction or an NFLCC meet without sending in a report on the reel activity will be flogged with a Popeil's pocket fisherman (yes, I own one). Any ORCA-nian who doesn't share his or her knowledge on a particular area of reel collecting will be charged with hoarding information and will have the "backlash jinx" placed on every one of his or her favorite baitcasters.

--M.E. Nogay

MEET & SHOW REVIEW

FLORIDA ANTIQUE TACKLE COLLECTORS Ft. Myers, FL Show and Auction — November 10 — 11, 1990

Our arrival in Ft. Myers began on an ominous note. Having promised my wife a weekend of shopping in neighboring Naples (30 miles south) if she accompanied me, imagine my horror (and my wife's frowning face) when we discovered at the airport that none of the half-dozen rental car agencies had any cars left! Thoughts of reel opportunities lost to round-trip cab fare charges soon vanished, however, when I found a Volkswagen Golf at the local Rent-A-Wreck. Since it was the last rental car available in southwest Florida, I knew things were looking up.

And were they ever! Fred Kerr and Jim Supej proved to be top-rate hosts (though I must admit, Fred's wife and daughter seemed to do most of the work) and two of the nicest guys I've had the pleasure of meeting while collecting tackle. Club President Ron Gast displayed one of the finest Kentucky reel collections in the world. If you didn't salivate when you walked by his table, perhaps ORCA should refund your money. Maybe this can be our initiation test.

The 65 members (of approximately 300) and 125 guests who attended the show and auction also got to see Ed Pritchard's fantastic big game reel collection. Ed hails from Homestead, Florida, and covets the Fin-Nor, Knolles, Stevens and Lees mammoth reels made over the years in Miami. He also had several classic Arthur Kovalovsky and Ed vom Hofe models. No matter what size reels you collect, one had to admire the craftsmanship of those big boys.

With widely-traveled Brian McGrath, editor and publisher of Fishing Collectibles Magazine at my side providing moral support (some would call it "egging on"), yours truly negotiated the private purchase of a J.L. Sage, Frankfort, Ky, brass No. 2; a J.L. Sage, brass No. 5; and a B.C. Milam Frankfort, KY No. 1. Ouch! Brian even bought me a cheeseburger after the deal to calm my 240-lb body!

The most unusual part of the show was the auction. The FATC "flushes out" high quality tackle from non-members by its active solicitation and advertising. Even

Continued page 4

CHARTER ORCA MEMBERS — 1990-1991

1. **BRUCE BOYDEN**, P.O. Box 752, Annex Station, Providence, RI 02910, (401) 941-6853
INTEREST: Signed Conroy N.Y. ball handle; Meisselbach baitcasting and salt water (no fly reels though); Hardy fly-fishing knives
TRADE/SWAP: Sale/swap list of antique, collectible and used tackle — issued 3-4 times a year
2. **JOHN E. CHAPES**, H.C. 1, Box 162, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545, (715) 543-2636
INTEREST: Pflueger Worth (mint); any other old pre-level wind Pfluegers with bulldog logo; also Meisselbach, specifically #685
TRADE/SWAP: 2 Al Floss Oriental Wigglers (mint) #3 Red on White with tin box, enclosed pamphlet; trade for Meisselbach 685 (mint) or Pflueger Worth (mint)
3. **ED & CAROLYN CORWIN**, c/o All Safe Mini Storage, 200 State Rd. 206 East, St. Augustine, FL 32086, Day (904) 797-6464, Evening (904) 692-2037
INTEREST: Fresh and Saltwater, all types, mostly pre-WWII and older, especially unusual types or features
TRADE/SWAP: Horton Bluegrass #25, GS, NLW, CBH, Exc.; Cozzone Wooden Reel Nottingham type Exc.; lots of others
4. **LOUIS "RICH" DICKMAN**, 9912 Baughman Rd., Harrison, OH 45030, (513) 367-0514
INTEREST: Heddon prototypes & ball-handled, NY style reels marked "G.F. Spicker Cin. Ohio"
TRADE/SWAP: Meek & Sons No. 5; Haywood No. 2 size
5. **RICHARD J. DUERDEN**, 310 Kintyre, Oxford, MI 48371
Day (313) 628-1488, Evening (313) 377-5647
INTEREST: Casting and open face spinning
TRADE/SWAP: Asaway Spinning Reel
6. **ANTHONY FLORIDIA**, Reeling Through the Years, 731 24th Square, Vero Beach, FL 32962 (408) 778-9024
INTEREST: All reels from Meeks — vom Hofe — Pflueger — Meisselbach — and everything in between (nickel silver, german silver)
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
7. **DONALD A. GARCIA**, 1975 Mohawk Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Day (415) 263-4538, Evening (415) 934-0621
INTEREST: Langley, Cox, Pflueger, Shakespeare, Meisselbach
TRADE/SWAP: Pflueger Oceanic Pat's '87, '88, 300 yard with box
8. **RON GAST**, 2306 Leeward Cove, Kissimmee, FL 34746,
Day (407) 356-5818, Evening (407) 933-7435
INTEREST: Reels by Meek; Meek & Sons; Gayle; Talbot; and nickel silver reels by small companies other than KY or NY ones.
TRADE/SWAP: Thomas Chubb Henshall van Antwerp reel
9. **DR. HAROLD G. HERR**, 1190 W. Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522
Day (717) 733-7971, Evening (717) 733-2555
INTEREST: A.B. Hendryx — unusual or boxed reels; NY brass & german silver; "S" and Ball Handle Reels — Early Abbey & Imbrie, odd ball stuff
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
10. **CHUCK HORTON, II**, 1734 Temple Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90804
Day (213) 436-8201, Evening (213) 494-4584
INTEREST: Saltwater Reels and Large Freshwater Reels
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
11. **I.M. KERLEY**, 328 Cement Valley Road, Midlothian, TX 76065,
Day (214) 299-5400, Evening (214) 775-2954
INTEREST: Old, open-face reels
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
12. **BOB LANG**, 771 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095, (203) 688-9661
INTEREST: KY Bait Casting Reels; American Fly Reels; Early Unusual Creels; Early Stenciled Bait Buckets
TRADE/SWAP: B.C. Milam "The Frankfort Kentucky Reel" No. 3; Creels; Bait Buckets, and much misc.
13. **TERRY LARSEN**, N6936 Skyview Court, Holmen, WI 54636, 1-8 p.m. CST (608) 526-9271
INTEREST: Kentucky Reels/Quality pre-1920 Bait-casting Reels; Historical Data; Reel Repair & Restoration
TRADE/SWAP: "Bluegrass Reel made by B.F. Meek & Sons," No. 3, 12 o'clock CB Crank, jeweled
14. **JAMES M. LEE**, 1640 Garland Street, Lakewood, CO 80215
Day (303) 744-2433, Evening (303) 232-9478
INTEREST: Old level wind & fly reels, no certain maker
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
15. **MAL McCARTY**, RT 1 Box 119 Riverton, Maryland Springs, MD 21837, (301) 883-3165
INTEREST: Old Heddon (1917-1930); Meeks; Winchester all types
TRADE/SWAP: 3 - Meisselbach Experts; 17, 580 Tripart, Winchester 2640 (Trade for Winchester reels)
16. **CHARLES A. MERCIER**, 215 W. St. Paul St., Spring Valley, IL 61362, (815) 664-4284
INTEREST: All 1800's to 1950 era
TRADE/SWAP: J. C. Higgins reels
17. **DUANE R. MCCARTHY**, 1800 Gold Creek Road, Sandpoint, ID 83864, (208) 265-7743
INTEREST: General
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
18. **BRIAN J. McGRATH**, 2005 Tree House, Plano, TX 75023,
Day (214) 867-5980, Evening (214) 596-3293
INTEREST: Side-mount fly reels; small salmon reels
TRADE/SWAP: none listed
19. **MICHAEL EDWARD NOGAY**, 3501 Riverview Drive, Weirton, WV 26062, Day (304) 723-1400, Evening (304) 797-1303, FAX (304) 723-3252
INTEREST: "J.L. Sage, Frankfort, Kentucky" reels; small freshwater New York Reels such as Julius vom Hofe and Abbey & Imbrie with trademark stamp only; all off-name KY and NY reels
TRADE/SWAP: B.C. Milam #1, Beautiful ice fishing boxes; photos sent upon request
20. **DEAN PALCZER**, 36304 Butternut Ridge, Elyria, Ohio 44035, (216) 748-3435
INTEREST: Pflueger fishing tackle — all types
TRADE OR SWAP: none listed

CHARTER ORCA MEMBERS — 1990-1991

21. **ED PRITCHARD**, 1579 S. Goldeneye Lane,
Homestead, FL 33035
Day (305) 852-3600, Evening (305) 246-0684
INTEREST: Big game reels: Miami makers, Stevens,
Lee, Fin-Nor, Knolles — all makes in general
TRADE OR SWAP:(Ex.) 14/0 Standard model Type
1 Brown Micarta Kovalovski
22. **JOHN REARDON**, 1516 2nd St., Peru, IL 61354,
(815) 223-0655
INTEREST: Narrow spool reels and boxes. Crusader
reels, Rev-O-Noc reels and Winchester reels
TRADE OR SWAP: Coxe 25-3 w/Leather case &
Paper ex \$85.00 — Have sale list, send SASE
23. **GEORGE N. REYNOLDS**, 83 Fortune Lane,
St. Louis, MO 63122
Day (314) 822-1303, Evening (314) 822-7416
INTEREST: Primarily any significant role that a reel or
make of reel played in the development of the sport
of baitcasting
TRADE OR SWAP:I can't part with my own old reels
or two my father gave me. I would part with a J.C.
Higgins 537 31050 that my misguided son gave me
last Christmas!
24. **JEFF ROSENFELD**, 21 Gilbert Street
Monroe, NY 10950
Day (914) 783-2012, Evening (914) 783-7153
INTEREST: Spinning Reels: Early, unusual, foreign, or
rare
TRADE OR SWAP:1930's Hardy St. John —
Meisselbach Symplopart and others (for trade for
spinners)
25. **PHILIP L. SARTUCHE**, 731 N. Sparks St.,
Burbank, CA 91506
Day (213) 580-5091, Evening (818) 842-4508
INTEREST: Penn reels (Deep Seas)
TRADE OR SWAP: Salt Walter reels (Penn) for Penn
#25, 26, 27
26. **STEVE SCARBOROUGH**, 4 Bent Tree Drive,
Asheville, NC 28804, Day (704) 255-7710,
Evening (704) 298-4058, FAX (704) 253-8719
INTEREST: Pre-WWII reels, prefer German Silver, in
E+ + or "Mint" (or new!) condition. Primarily bait
casting reels but some trout and fly and salt water.
Not necessarily KY or vom Hofe reels; prefer \$25 to
\$100 price range reels but on occasion go wild! I need
to "like" a reel before I add it to my collection and
admit to having difficulty putting a definition on the
word "like". "Defining" my collection is less impor-
tant to me than is acquiring reels I "like."
TRADE OR SWAP: Still building my collection! Have
only a few common items plus Horton Meek #25 (E),
which is only "neat" reel coming to mind for trade
right now.I do have Redifor Model X Trout reel for sale
but at inflated price (!) to enable me to expand by
collection.
27. **MYRON SERGEANT**, 2828 56 Ave., W.,
Milan, IL 61264, (309) 787-3289
INTEREST: I like all kinds of reels/ N.L.W. and unusual
items
TRADE OR SWAP: none listed
28. **HUCK SPAWR**, 2820 Colorado Street,
Long Beach, CA 90814, (213) 433-8750
INTEREST: Big saltwater reels; my wife likes
baitcasters
TRADE OR SWAP: Short or long guns for Kovalov-
sky reels
29. **STEVEN K. VERNON**, 145 Ellis Road,
Havertown, PA 19083, (215) 449-2887
INTEREST: Old American reels with patented or other-
wise interesting features, old NY-style reels,
homemade reels, 19th century British
TRADE OR SWAP: Atwood reel; Heddon 4-18; Milam
& Son #3; American No. 1; Talbots; Reversible
Minnow
30. **BRUCE L. WILSON**, 522 6th Street,
Annapolis, MD 21403, (301) 268-4805
INTEREST: Edward vom Hofe; Coxe, Kovalovsky,
quality saltwater reels
TRADE OR SWAP: none listed
31. **RUSS WILSON**, 2240 River Bend Lane,
Chico, CA 95926, (916) 896-1711
INTEREST: Kentucky Reels, Quality Tournament
casting reels
TRADE OR SWAP: Meek & Milam #3; J. vom Hofe
Bay reel; Nickle plated 300 yard size; Karr Maker NY
reel — some day
32. **WILLIAM WINTERS**, 243 Park Drive,
Glenolden, PA 19036, (215) 534-3412
INTEREST: 1950-1960 Uslan; Airex reels; Odd reels
(spinning) line; information about reels (Books)
TRADE OR SWAP: Uslan reel wanted
33. **JEFF ZIMMER**, 2404 Auburn Lane,
Northbrook, IL 60062, (708) 272-5006
INTEREST: "Kentucky Style" reels, Meek/Horton,
Talbot, Gayle
TRADE OR SWAP: none listed
34. **ROY ZELAZINSKI**, 101-06 160 Avenue,
Howard Beach, NY 11414, (718) 641-6790
INTEREST: Wooden, hard rubber, etc, side winder
reels/Steamboat Knuckle Buster reels
TRADE OR SWAP: Ritter, Hard Rubber, German
silver, sidewinder

LATE ARRIVAL

35. **HOWARD FORTUNE**, 502 Holt Avenue,
Mt. Sterling, KY 40353 (606) 498-3052
INTEREST: Kentucky Reels
TRADE OR SWAP: none listed

Please send articles for publication to keep this newsletter
going. Upcoming features, finances permitting, will focus
on source lists for reel collectors — auctions, books,
previously published magazine articles, and modern-day
craftsmen who specialize in reel repair and restoration.
ORCA would like thank **Chuck Horton II** for providing the
club with envelopes and stationary.

REEL LIFE IN THE N.F.L.C.C.

by Steve Vernon

All too frequently, we reel collectors are skunked at N.F.L.C.C. regional meets, frustrated by the overwhelming preponderance of lures that we encounter. That was not the case at the club's Region 2 Meet held in Allentown, Pa., on Nov. 16-17, 1990, and hosted by Dave Hartranft. The 113 tables bore a healthy mix of old tackle, fishing ephemera, art, books, and paper. Although it seemed that everyone at the meet could have gone home with an ABU or two (a disturbing development), there were enough older reels to hold anyone's interest. Only big-game reels were in short supply.

Among the reel highlights was Mal McCarty's gorgeous exhibit of Winchester tackle, which featured the biggest display of their reels I've ever seen. Their reels are much more impressive when grouped in such fashion. Some of the scarcer reels seen at the Meet were: Redifor B, Redifor X, Atwood, Henshall-Van Antwerp, a couple of Milams, Meek 44, Hendryx Populo, a Redifor with a Redifor Spooler, Heddon 4-18, Heddon 4-15, Clinton, an unusual, unmarked cage reel, and an especially beautiful J. vom Hofe salmon reel. How many of these reels changed hands and at what prices are open questions. Whet anyone's appetite?

A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO KENTUCKY REELS

Compiled by Michael Nogay

STAMP ON REEL	APPROX. DATES MANUFACTURED
"G.S." (George Snyder, Sr. and Jr.)	1805-1830
"J.F. & B.F. Meek, Frankfort, KY"	1837-1852
"J. & C. Snyder" (John and Charles Snyder)	1840-1850
"J.L. Sage, Frankfort KY"	1848-1896
"Meek & Milam, Frankfort KY"	1853-1880
"B.C. Milam, Frankfort, KY"	1881-1896
"B.F. Meek, Louisville, KY"	1883-1889
"Geo. W. Gayle (G.W. Gayle) & Son, Frankfort, KY"	1884-1946
"B.F. Meek & Sons, Louisville, KY"	1889-1916
"J. Deally, Louisville, KY"	1895-1901
"B.C. Milam, The Frankfort Kentucky Reel" (in semi-circle)	1896-1902
"B.C. Milam & Son, Frankfort, KY"	1900-1927
"Blue Grass Reel Works, Louisville, KY"	1901-1904
"Blue Grass Reel made by B.F. Meek & Sons, Louisville, KY"	1904-1910
"Medley's 20th Century Kentucky Reel," Granville Medley, Gracey, KY	1904
B.C. Milam & Son, Frankfort, KY Rustic No. 3"	1909-1928
"B.F. Meek & Sons, Louisville, KY - Blue Grass"	1910-1916
"Meek - The Horton Mfg. Co., Bristol, Conn."	1916-1940

**SPECIAL THANKS TO
RON GAST AND FRANK STEWART**
(Source list provided upon request.)

FLORIDA SHOW con't from page 1

local churches are sent notices. One retiree who brought in a box of reels on Sunday for the auction walked out a few hours later with check for nearly \$9,000.00 and a big smile on his face. Also, all members are given equal access to these treasures, and "parking lot pirates" are not tolerated.

The only downside of the meet was the absence of in-room trading to the extent normally seen at NFLCC meets. Also, the Florida salt air has a strange oxidation effect on the german silver parts of reels. German silver contains copper, which, when oxidized, leaves a strange bronze glow on the reel. Old timers recommend a touch of lemon juice to solve the dilemma.

As the lengthy auction price guide below indicates, groups of reels were gobbled up by dealers at extraordinary low prices.

There was a 10% sellers premium, but no additional charge to buyers, so prices below are totals.

1. Group of 7 Meisselbach Takaparts \$160.00
2. Group of 5 Pflueger Supremes \$ 75.00
3. Group of 4 Pflueger Supremes only one w/box \$ 35.00
4. Group of 4 Pflueger Sal-trout reels \$ 35.00
5. Group of 38 Shakespeare casting reels . . . \$ 95.00
6. Group of 26 nickle plated brass reels — non-level winds \$140.00
7. Group of 22 Pflueger level winds reels . . . \$ 95.00
8. Small Pflueger nickle plated fly reel \$ 35.00
9. Group of 13 spin-cast reels \$ 40.00
10. Group of 8 Coxe reels — only 1 freshwater, 7 saltwater w/stardrags \$120.00
11. Hurd Supercaster (Rod w/built-on reel and wooden handle) \$ 70.00
12. L.A. Kiefer baitcasting reel with slide & pull drag (PAT Aug. 23, 1881; Feb. 21, 1882) (missing rear bearing cap) \$500.00
13. Large size 2/0 Pflueger Golden West w/box \$ 45.00
14. Fin-Nor No. 4 spinning reel \$250.00
15. Shakespeare No. 1740 ("FK") Tournament Free Spool \$ 90.00
16. B.F. Meek & Sons — Louisville No. 2 (#3224) (Unusual narrow spool model) \$650.00
17. James Heddon's Sons 3-30 with tournament spool and handle / Serial #5(!) (Cost \$35.00 in 1922) \$500.00
18. Bond Baitcasting Reel (Detroit) with cardboard tube \$ 40.00
19. Shakespeare (NIB) President w/leather case \$ 30.00
20. Heege & Kiffe — Brooklyn, NY 60-yard ball-handle (in poor condition — damaged handle) \$125.00
21. Julius vom Hofe '85 & '89 patents; size "1" poor condition but early spiral knurling . . . \$ 75.00
22. Julius vom Hofe '85 & '89 patents; size 2 marked "Dame, Stoddard & Co. Boston" . \$140.00
23. Julius vom Hofe '85 & '89 patents; size 3 Brooklyn, NY \$ 90.00
24. Julius vom Hofe '85 & '89 patents; size 2/0 \$120.00
25. Edward vom Hofe size 2/0 rubber and german silver \$275.00
26. Edward vom Hofe size 4/0 stardrag scratched rubber sideplate \$180.00
27. Edward vom Hofe size 6/0 rubber and nickle silver \$250.00
28. Edward K. Tryon Co. Catalog 122 pp. Philadelphia (contains many reels) \$305.00

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

ORCA membership dues are a voluntary assessment of \$10.00 per year. To keep accounting matters simple, there will be no pro-rating of dues to persons joining after the November 1, 1990 starting date. Membership runs from November through October of the following year. However, new members will be sent back issues of any newsletters published that year. Please contact Michael Nogay at P.O. Box 2540, Weirton, WV 26062 for further information.