

All The Fish
Stories Fit to
Print

The Worm

Kettle Creek
Edition April
1995

The Underground Newspaper of the Gabby



"WE DON'T DO INTERVIEWS OR PRINT PICTURES - WE JUST
CRAWL THROUGH THE DIRT AND SEE WHAT STICKS."

DR. TROUT MISSES VIDEO - GETS GABBY

RETIRES AT BUSINESS MEETING - SAYS KETTLE IS "NO LONGER A CHALLENGE"

Dateline: Kettle Creek, PA

In unprecedented fashion, Jaymie Smolens, a.k.a. Dr. Trout, PhD, Salmonoid, won his fifth Gabby. It was also his third in a row.

In describing how he found the Gabby, Jamie explained that he knew there was a really big fish in the pool he was fishing because there were no other fish there. The absence of other fish told him that the creature living there must be a "monster" who was making sure that no other fish were in his territory. Indeed, it was - a 19 7/8" monster, breaking Dr. Trout's own modern day record of 18 3/4".

In accepting his trophy, Smolens, to the amazement of the Gabby group, announced his retirement from active competition. After years of stocking and scouting the stream, he knows Kettle Creek "beyond the shadow of a trout", - and it no longer is a challenge to fish.

1995, said the Doctor, will see him fishing the smaller feeder streams to Kettle. He believes there may be some challenging fishing there. In fact, he feels some of the trout that were fed into Kettle Creek years ago may have found homes in some of those streams. The Doctor sounds like he's going after the 23 1/2" "Inspirational Gabby", one of the few Gabby records he doesn't yet own.

Jaymie may not be able to get that record, though. The Founders long ago declared anywhere but Kettle Creek "off limits" when fishing for the Gabby.

In a **Worm exclusive**, the Doctor may be having second thoughts about this alleged retirement. In a recent interview with our editorial board, Jaymie's memory of the business meeting seemed cloudy (an odd occurrence for one of the only sober people there).

After prolonged questioning, Smolens was heard to ask if someone could bring a copy of the minutes of last year's business meeting to camp this year.

Minutes? - Someone should get the Doctor a drink.

In a related story, Dane Konop's Oscar nominated "Gabby In A Nutshell" 25th anniversary video made it's way to all Gabby attendees, with the notable exception of Jaymie Smolens, his long time fishing arch-rival and camp adversary. In several desperate, but futile attempts to convince Jaymie that it was a simple mistake, oversight, error, or something like that, Konop pleaded to take the recovering alcoholic Smolens to a bar to view the tape. The ever sober Dr. Trout, of course, refused.

Dane was later overheard asking Jaymie, who is also a diabetic, if he could borrow some sugar. Some days you just can't get out of your own way.

Is Dr. Trout really retired? No one knows for sure, but Jaymie is sure of one thing - he's got more Gabbys overall, and in a row, than Dane Konop does. The adventure continues. Or does it?

DAVE RUBINO ROBBED AND REELED

Imagine the excitement and anticipation of winning the Gabby. How many Gabbyites in the last few years have had that euphoric feeling, only to see Dr. Trout reach in his cooler, in yet another hand of Gabby poker, and pull out the winner to take the trophy? Well of all those stories, this may be the toughest yet.

Longtime Gabbyite Dave Rubino believed that 1994, like 1980, would be the year that Gabby would choose him. At 8:45 AM on Saturday, fishing downstream from camp, Dave pulled out a tuna of a rainbow, 18 1/2" long. After netting the huge fish, he slipped back into camp, put the fish on ice, pulled up a chair and waited.

Dave has seen many a fisherman who thought they had the Gabby get cocky and overconfident. Determined not to fall into that trap, Dave waited patiently, watching to see what contenders came in. As the hours passed, despite his best efforts and the Doctor's history, it seemed that his fish was a winner.

However, reality came calling at about 5PM, when the Doctor unveiled his catch of the day, a 19 7/8" trophy trout. While Dave's fish was certainly heavier, it was not quite long enough to win, as the Doctor took his unprecedented 5th Gabby.

With the outcome no longer in doubt, Jaymie presented Dave with a beautiful compact, lightweight spinning reel in honor of the enviable fish. Now all Dave has to do is catch another rainbow tuna with the reel. After all, Jaymie's retired, right?

WORMWATCH (R) A DEADLINE EXCLUSIVE UPDATE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!~!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Dateline: London England, UK via The Worm

© Reuters News Service

**.....Dr. Trout.....Retirement.....**

Barrings, P.C., London and The Gabby's own commodities exchange in Hoboken, NJ, USA, crashed last month in the much publicized Aisan investment scam perpetrated by an English broker in Singapore. Our own Doctor Trout's retirement is in jeopardy, as all his, and other Gabbyites' investments at the flash freezing facility in New Jersey, have thawed.

This editor just got off the skyphone uplink with Dr. Trout, who, at this very moment is on a British Airways 747 enroute to London. He will be on a working vacation talking with Dutch investors to try to save the "Gabby Retirement Plan" and his own, as well as the Gabby's future in Cross Fork, PA.

The Doctor did expect to fish England's famous chalk streams, but said, and I quote him, "I am appalled at the thought of active competition during 1995." He will not return to the US by The Worm's press deadline, but assured this editor "The Exclusive" and a full review of his options by 9:00 PM, April 15th, 1995. The question of whether or not The Doctor can save our aging Gabbyites' pensions and the definitive answer on his retirement will have to wait until then to be answered.

The Editor

DANE KONOP UNVEILS "GABBY IN A NUTSHELL - THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO" FOR ALL 1994 GABBYITES

(EXCEPT JAYMIE SMOLENS)

Dateline: Silver Springs, MD Dane Konop, one of the original founders of The Gabby, released his own commemorative video, "Gabby in a Nutshell - The First 25 Years" just prior to the 1994 camp. The video, a decidedly Dane-ish film, outlines the history of the famed fishing expedition by Konop, who is pictured in his house, sitting in a chair with his young son on his lap. Konop, at his son's very staged request, recounts the history of Gabby through a series of Mark Bedont (Official Gabby Photographer) snapshots, live video and Bob Dylan music.

The film was originally thought to have been nominated for an Oscar, the small statuette awarded to Hollywood's finest work, as Best Short Subject. However, that speculation was advanced before the nominating committee actually saw the film. Upon viewing it, they dismissed Konop and his film summarily, in fact, forcibly ejecting him from the building. Konop continued to seek recognition for his work, but found only rejection. In his final attempt he entered the film in the Cross Fork Film Festival, but came in a distant second to a local video depicting the mating habits of snakes.

The video was a subject of much discussion at the 1994 Gabby, as it relived fond memories for the only group in the world that could possibly appreciate it. Those discussions turned ugly, however, when it was discovered that Dr. Trout did not receive a copy. Oddly enough, the film's final sequence had centered around an alleged phone call between Konop and Smolens, where Dane tries to convince his audience that he has made an agreement with the Doctor, that in the event that Jaymie should win his 5th Gabby, or in the unlikely event that Dane should win his, the winner of their 5th would retire from active competition, giving hope to "the other pitiful fishermen at camp", that they too, might someday win a Gabby. The problem with this "GabScam" was, that Jaymie never **saw** the film.

As the weekend ensued, Konop tried all manner of means to show the film to Smolens, from trying to get him to watch it on this editor's 1" video camera screen, to trying to drag the recovering alcoholic Doctor to Kinney's to watch it on the TV there, but with no success. Despite not seeing the film, there are reports that the Doctor mentioned something about retiring at the business meeting after winning his 5th Gabby. No one is yet sure if Smolens was retiring from active competition, or if he was just announcing that he was going to bed.

The video contains a heart warming history of the Gabby and is a keepsake for all Gabbyites. We would be remiss if we did not thank Dane Konop for his efforts, at his own considerable expense, in bringing us his snapshot of the first 25 years of Gabby. This "pitiful little fisherman" rates this movie with an "A" (for arrogance), but thanks Dane Konop just the same. By the way Dane, who came in second at the 1994 Gabby??? For that matter, who came in 3rd????



Lost: One Copy of "Gabby in a Nutshell - The First 25 Years". Last seen boarding a Federal Express truck bound for Hershey PA. If found, please contact Dane Konop or send to J. Smolens.



For Sale: One copy of "Gabby in a Nutshell - The First 25 Years", Collector's Edition. \$1.50 or best offer. Contact J. Smolens, Hershey, PA

GABBY COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION SHAKES FOUNDATIONS

Founder's retirements, committee re-structuring wreak havoc with traditions

by Glen Dworkin

Dateline : Cross Fork, PA

Who's on First?

The 1994 25th Anniversary Gabby Hayes Memorial Fishing Expedition brought massive re-organization to the intricate web of committees that form the lifeblood of Gabby. Change was the theme of the 1994 business meeting as Gabby, like many corporations and organizations, sought to achieve growth and regeneration of spirits through new blood and personnel changes.

In perhaps the most sweeping change, Carl Ciccone retired as Chairman of the Trophy and Patch Committee. Many thanks to Carl for his many years of service, bringing us beautiful patches and trophies. However, Carl has lost his enthusiasm (see pg 4), and it is time to pass the torch.

1994 saw Steve Mueller, Fireguy, and the Chairman of the new Trophy Committee, bring his first trophy, a wonderful plaque with a **BASS** on it. Maybe this year Steve could bring a box of different fish to screw onto the plaque to accomodate the winner. When I win my next Gabby, I want a giffilta fish!!!!!!

To share in the fulfillment of Carl Ciccone's former duties, Jaymie Smolens has been named as Chairman of the newly formed Commemoratives Committee. Some may recall that in 1993, Jaymie had silk screened T-shirts made which were marvelous. The Doctor plans a 1995 25th Anniversary T- shirt that is bound to be just as impressive. (See his article on page 7).

Another change is the official recognition of Brian Griffin and his publication of this rag, **The Worm**. Started in 1993 as an underground movement due to the cessation of The Gabsette, **The Worm** has found a warm spot in the hearts and minds of Gabbyites. Why at last year's camp, Dane Konop was even heard to call it "the best free newspaper in camp". The camp has declared that as long as Griffin wants to write, distribute and absorb the costs of this publication, who are we to stop him?

Congratulations and thanks to Carl on his retirement, good luck to Jaymie and Brian and as for Dr. Mueller, let's hope practice makes perfect.

Change the date of the Gabby?

We all love and respect "Fireguy", Alias Dr. Steve Mueller, but what a dumb idea. Change the date of the Gabby?

Be serious!! "Make it one week after opening day - the weather will be warmer, we won't have to contend with rowdy campers nearby, and the probability of M-16's and firearms being shot at us will be diminished" said Mueller. All very logical reasons.

However, there is something called **TRADITION**.

Fortunately, after Mueller made his suggestion, Paul Phillips queried "Is there any other new business"? Good for you, Paul. I'm glad that there are some reasonable people in Gabby Camp. The demeanor of Paul's response should end any further discussion of this simply ridiculous issue.



DEAR GABBY Advice for the camp-worm

Dear Gabby,

I've retired as chairman of the Trophy and Patch Committee because I just got too disgusted with these miserable Gabbyites who take my trophies for granted and don't appreciate the gorgeous patches I've produced over the years. Lately, I've been thinking that killing some of them might make me feel better. What do you think?

Retired, but still very pissed off

Dear Retired,

Sometimes we all feel unappreciated, but I'm sure that it isn't intentional. These people are your friends and murder certainly won't solve anything. Please seek counseling at once, before you do anything rash.

Dear Brian,

I am responding to your questions regarding the patches and trophies:

Trophies - I have been getting trophies from 1978 to 1993 for a grand total of 16 years. In all of that time, I have never, ever, purchased a trophy with some kind of inferior breed of fish such as a BASS to represent the coveted GABBY.

When I was a lad and had the tremendous responsibility of obtaining the symbol of GABBY-dom, I spent hours selecting the base, the columns, the associated eagles, etc. to compliment the overall structure of the trophy. Then I would special order the TROUT to provide the crowning embellishment only fitting for this award. There is only one GABBY award in the entire world. There is no Japanese Gabby, or a Commie Gabby - only THE GABBY HAYES MEMORIAL FISHING TOURNAMENT GABBY. Last year's exhibition almost drove me out of retirement. What a disgraceful act - I was appalled.

PATCH HISTORY - The origin of the patch came out of a camp business meeting. I don't remember the details (no big deal for a GABBY weekend), but I agreed to look into the possibilities. After doing some research that year (1979), I arrived at the first patch.

1979 - This patch was the first and only patch not specifically designed for us by myself. It was a generic patch out of a catalog with a fisherman pulling a fish from the water, - one color, no embroideries. The Gabby patches after 79 took on their own personality and meaning. Each was designed with a theme in mind to represent, symbolize, and mark our unique moments in time and to capture this timeless tradition.

1982 - Was the year of the keystone shaped patch. This was an attempt to make a patch that looked official - something you could put on a hat or shoulder. It was the first 100% embroidered patch with a fish leaping out of the stream with a man in the background. This was my first experience in designing, doing artwork, making decisions on # of colors, how patch borders would be finished, size, quantities, allowing ample lead times (8-12 weeks) for manufacture, etc. All these factors affected cost.

1984 - The state outline with Gabby Hayes' picture paid tribute to the man and the location in the glorious state of PA, where he made his mark.

1986 - The circle patch with the hooked GABBY breaking the pattern of the circle. The fish is leaping out of a stream which came from the "Y" of the word GABBY.

1987 - The square patch with only the elusive GABBY crashing through the surface of the water to show his power - simple, yet meaningful.

1988 - the circle with the tarp, pine trees, fire & fishermen in chairs represents home for the tired and disgusted, or the people who never leave camp.

1989 - The 20 year Gabby tried to capture the majestic scenery of the event with mountains, streams, state map & Cross Fork location.

1992 - The circle with the calendar, STRAUB'S beer, worms, rod & reel and vest represented the planning stage of Gabby Weekend.

My Questions are : How Many GABBY fisherman display these honored symbols of their roots? How many even know where their patches are? I propose that each Gabby participant must display in some way the patches of Gabby history. If you are ashamed to display them, then you are not permitted in Gabby Camp... PERIOD.

Editor's note : I received this signed "Disgraced and Embarrassed, Carl Ciccone, Chairman of the Trophy and Patch Committee (RETIRED). Before we find Carl in a tree above Gabby camp with a high powered rifle,

WILL SOMEONE PLEASE GET THIS MAN THE FOUNDER'S AWARD HE DESERVES!!!!

Editor's Note: One of the dangers in turning this into a true camp newspaper is the following column. I personally believe that it should come with a Surgeon General's warning, but in lieu of that, I offer the following:

The following Dane Drivel may cause headaches, dizziness, nausea and even vomiting. Do not operate a motor vehicle, heavy machinery, or even attempt to urinate standing up while reading this, or the results could be disastrous. Do not show this column to pregnant women, and especially do not show this column to women you are trying to get pregnant. The management of this newspaper assumes no responsibility for injuries, mental, physical or emotional resulting from the reading of this column. However, we do recommend it highly for lining bird cages and wrapping fish.

GABBY IN A RUTSHELL by Dane Konop

Dr. Trout Takes One For The Thumb

Life took its cue from art at the Gabby of 1994 -- The 25th Anniversary of the Founder's inspirational Gabby trip of 1969.

Gabby the video had laid out the plot: Dr. Trout was challenged by Founder and fellow four time Gabby winner Dane to a head to head competition for the mythical fifth Gabby -- then both would retire from active competition.

Other Gabbyites were becoming discouraged. Going into Gabby Camp of 1994, of the 17 Gabbys awarded since 1976, eight had been won by either Dr. T or Dane.

Whether it was an uncanny prognostication or a media manipulation of malleable minds through Gabby The Video's ersatz reality -- it worked.

Jaymie did take his fifth Gabby, a magnificent 19 7/8" brown trout, from an overlooked hole off the main channel below Fish City. It was his third Gabby in a row. Not only had he won one for the thumb, but Dr. T's fish also beat out Dane's previous all-time largest Gabby trophy fish by 1/16" -- and was second overall only to Pat Annegan's Inspirational Gabby of 1969.

By the Friday before opening day, thirteen Gabby hopefuls had arrived in camp to find temperatures in the 70's with patches of snow in the shadows. The Gabby guys responded with snow ball fights in shorts and T-shirts.

On Saturday, the creek was high from snow runoff, but clear as the night sky. There were many pools in side streams above and below Fish City, but the main channel was so high it was nearly unfishable. The weather worsened all morning, and by midday, skies were overcast with occasional sprinkles, temperatures had dropped 10 degrees, and a big wind rolled in from the south. Gusty winds and storm clouds alternated with periods of calm and bright sunlight.

Despite the deteriorating conditions, 23 fish were caught, including a big one by Dave Rubino, which was quickly dubbed the "largest trout not to win a Gabby".

Founder Paul Phillips, back in camp after a few years' absence, ran the Gabby circle meeting and awards ceremony. As the last Gabbyite other than Dr. Trout to win a Gabby, Founder Dane introduced the winner with a pedantic paen of the past 25 years of Gabby competition. Brian Griffin started up with the usual interruption and harrassment of Gabby speakers, but was quickly put down: "This part of the ceremony is reserved for Gabby winners, not Gabby wannabees. Feel free to talk among yourselves after we GABBY WINNERS are done!"

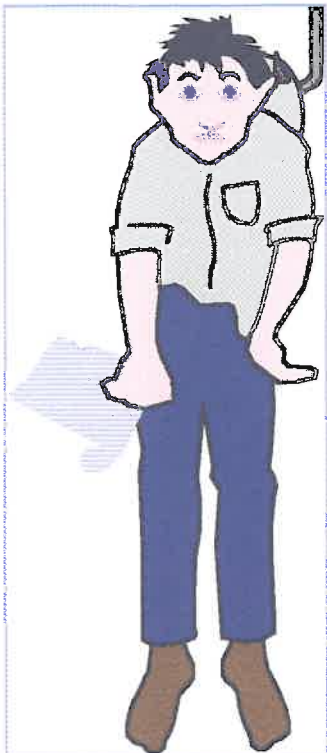
"Only Selby, Jaymie and I know what it's like to win three Gabbys, Konop added. Only Jaymie and I know what it's like to win four. And now Jaymie knows the thrill of winning five. With this win he becomes the undisputed all-time Gabby Master. On behalf of Pat Annegan and all previous Gabby winners, well done."

Although Gabby the Video had prepared the Gabby group for this denoument, the Gabby circle fell strangely silent as Dr. Trout accepted the award. Ever the man of few words, Dr. Trout simply said, "Thank you all. And I am retiring from active Gabby competition."

And with that simple declaration, the Dr. Trout era of the Gabby came to a close and a new one began -- with the amazingly likely prospect of a new face in the Gabby winner's circle for 1995.

Mark Bedont, who can't make camp this year due to family responsibilities, wrote to give us a tidbit for the "Timing is Everything File". Mark recalls he and Unc witnessing a pine tree fall right where Paul Phillips tent had been, just after Paul left camp. Ever the Camp Photographer, he even has the picture to prove it. Mark also offers a "Where Are They Now" item - he got a call from ex-IUP buddy, Ed Hohos. Ed, a Gabbyite from the "old days" moved to Texas. He's still in Dallas (Arlington) and still married to Nancy. Mark says it sounds like he's in business (oil related), doing OK, and asking about some Gabby Guys. Mark says he misses everyone, had a great time last year, and has given this editor his proxy vote on any business meeting matters. BPG.

800+ TROUT STOCKED IN KETTLE CREEK AT GABBY CAMP



Dateline : Kettle Creek, Cross Fork, PA

The PA fish commission's great white fleet, complete with Dr. Trout, converged on Kettle Creek 3/1/95 and stocked 4,400 legal size brown and rainbow trout. These salmonoids came from the Oswego Fish Culture Station in northern Potter County. We started at the bridge at Kinney's in town and ended at the wire below the special regulation area. 100+ of those beauties are 2nd and 3rd year fish including numerous breeders in the 20" - 24" class, the largest being true rainbows with some slightly smaller pal-o-mines. We used a 4 wheel ford to drive through Gabby Camp to transport the 5 gallon buckets of trout to the holiest of water, Fish City.

The stream condition was beautiful with just a light ice still hanging on, but with the 45 degree plus temperature, it will soon be gone. The mountains were green, lacking the snow, that mixed with the spring rain, pumped up Kettle Creek the last 2 years. Fishing should be great for the 26th Annual Gabby Hayes Memorial Fishing Expedition.

Also from Cross Fork, the legacy at Charlie "Stoney" Stone's tackle shop is being carried on by Stoney's son Mike. Mike and his mother Erm will be open for all of your license and tackle needs and Erm's Restaurant will open as usual, offering her fine home cooking.

Gabby Camp looks beautiful - see you soon and travel safely.

Dr. Trout, PhD. Trout, Salmonoid

WANNA WIN A GABBY?

PAY SOMEONE TO CATCH IT FOR YOU!!!

NOW THERE'S "CONTRACT - A- GABBY"!

A PAID* ADVERTISEMENT BY GLEN DWORKIN

Let's face it. Some of us have it, and some of us don't.. Want to increase your odds of getting a Gabby? Contract with a Gabby winner.

Who says you have to fish? There are rules like no fly fishing, and it must be caught on opening day in Kettle Creek, but who says that **you** have to be the fisherman (we don't allow women at the Gabby - another rule).

As a Gabby winner, I for one, would be perfectly happy to sell my next Gabby to an unfortunate sole. I would fish for you. You would now have two chances to win a Gabby - yours plus the proven skills of a Gabby winner.

Of course, I would sell to the highest bidder. However, I do have some values. I would not want to sell my Gabby at the Business Meeting. I would hate to see the Business Meeting become an auction. All contracts would need to be signed and paid for prior to the presentation of the trophy. (I do not accept checks or credit cards) and no payment is due unless I win.

If you know you can't fish, let's talk. Contact me c/o The Worm, Box 100.

(* I haven't paid for this advertisement yet because Brian doesn't accept checks or credit cards either.)

DR. TROUT COMMEMORATIVES, LTD. TO ISSUE LIMITED EDITION "DUAL" CELEBRATION T - SHIRT

Dateline: Hershey, PA

I am glad that everyone enjoyed the 1993 1st Edition Gabby T - Shirt and am happy to report on this year's special project. After being asked to officially take over as Chairman of the Gabby Commemoratives Committee, I was also urged by many Gabby brothers to design something for our silver celebration along with this year's 26th annual Gabby. I am happy to report that a beautiful design is being produced by the newly formed "Dr. Trout Ltd."

I am disappointed that our two major sponsors, Eureka tents and Coleman camping, are returning only as associate sponsors in 1995. Their advertising people felt that they are well entrenched at Gabby and therefore didn't need to spend the big dollars.

On a happy note, Straub's beer will continue to support Gabby as a major sponsor. I was assured by the Straub family that their support will continue to flow freely without budgetary restraint.

Also for 1995, two new major sponsors will make their first appearance on a Dr. Trout Ltd. T - Shirt. First the Bryn Mawr Clock Company, with a heritage which goes back to father time himself, and repairs, trades and sells fine timepieces. This is an up and coming company with hints of Fortune 500 fame, including a cover story with Entrepreneur Magazine, and is owned by Gabby's own C.E.O., Paul Phillips, PhD.

Our second sponsor is T.D. Mills, our Promotional Specialist, of Hershey, PA, whose kindness and generosity makes such a beautiful T - Shirt possible in such small quantity.

I look forward to seeing all of my Gabby brothers real soon and look forward to working with other prospective sponsors for future projects at Dr. Trout Ltd.

Dr. Trout, PhD. Trout, Salmonoid

SILENCE DENIES BOB KNAPP 1994 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

BY GLEN DWORKIN

Dateline: Fire Circle

Dumb struck with silence, Bob Knapp lost the one man race for 1994 Rookie of the Year.

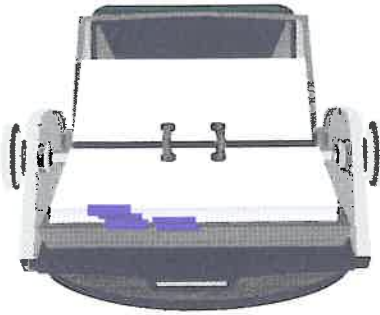
At the annual business meeting, Knapp was nominated by his sponsor, Brian Griffin. Lively discussion centered on whether or not there should be a Rookie of the Year when there was only one rookie in camp.

Griffin lobbied hard for Knapp, pointing out that he had brought an American Flag, brought worms for his sponsor, cooked, cleaned, and was in general, a good partier. Concensus seemed to be that, if Bob could say something in support of his nomination, Gabby Camp might bestow the title upon him.

All eyes and ears fell on Bob, waiting for something, anything. No one knows if it was the fire, the effect of the business meeting, or just that this was his first Gabby experience, but Bob could not manage a sound. The issue was closed as Paul Phillips asked if there was any other new business.

Cat got your tongue, Bob? Next year, bring an RV - maybe you'll win a Founder's Award.

In a related story, Bob Knapp, due to family obligations and "any number of reasons", will not be attending the 1995 Gabby Camp. Hope to see you in 1996, Bob.



THE GABBY ROLODEX

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**Don't see your name? Information wrong?
Please update me at camp or call me at home**

914-271-2680

GREAT YEARS IN GABBY HISTORY

- 1969 - The first Gabby trip. Annegan wins "the Inspirational Gabby" 23 1/2" long
- 1974 - Bob Prospero replaces Annegan, no Gabby awarded
- 1975 - The year of no fish
- 1976 - Dane wins 1st Gabby with heaviest, not longest fish, in 1st GabScam., 1st year at Gabby camp
- 1977 - Dave Rubino & Carl Ciccone's first Gabby trip, Unc wins the Gabby
- 1978 - Selby wins 1st Gabby, tries to outlaw Fish City
- 1979 - Rookie Keith Robinson wins with the "MicroGabby"
- 1980 - The year of the Tribes - Dave Rubino wins the Gabby, Tweedy's sucker is sacrificed to the fire
- 1981 - Steve Mueller wins the Gabby in his rookie year, but nobody sees it - GABSCAM
- 1982 - The Gabsette debuts, Selby wins his 2nd Gabby, business meeting GabStalls debut
- 1983 - Paul Phillips stops fishing, Selby wins # 3, says "Want to win the Gabby - catch a bigger fish!!"
- 1984 - 2nd Gabby for Keith Robinson, "The Man Who Only Catches Gabbys"
- 1985 - Dane Konop wins his 2nd, the Gabstick debuts, Dave Phillips named Rookie of the Year
- 1986- Debut of Colianneville and Team Gabby - Dane wins 3rd Gabby

MORE GREAT YEARS IN GABBY HISTORY

1987 - Byron Anderson wins the Gabby at 8:02 AM . Business meeting sees attempted rules change on palominos. Cries of "Where will it stop" halt the "World's Greatest Deliberative Body"

1988 - The Dr. Trout Era, a new generation, begins - the battle for the great snagged non Gabby palomino

1989 - Jaymie wins his 2nd for Gabby 20th with radio headsets; Fireguy gets split, delivered firewood

1990 - The Gabsette ceases publication. In the Miracle of Kettle Creek, Glen Dworkin wins the Gabby

1991 - Dane wins his 4th, Larry Selby gets old

1992 - Straub Trip and plaque by Gabbyites, Jaymie wins his third

1993 - The Worm debuts, Jaymie wins his 4th over Griffin & Konop in Gabby Poker

1994 - Rubino robbed, Jaymie wins 5th on 25th Anniversary, and retires?? Dane silent on his future



EDITORIAL

I don't know about the rest of you, but the Great Jaymie Debate is starting to wear on me. Dane films a video to try to convince Founders that the Gabby is still worth competing for. Whispers are heard like "He'll win every year", "Let's get a trophy for second place", and other such nonsense.

Like a bunch of old ladies, Gabbyites have taken to excuses as to why they haven't won the Gabby, and the new favorite one is because of Dr. Trout. Perhaps instead of whining, some people ought to get off their collective fat, complaining asses and fish a little harder.

Is this really what Gabby has come to? Is this the spirit that Gabby was born of? I can just hear it now, "Sorry, Pat Annegan, but you can't fish anymore because the fish you catch are too big for us to compete with". Maybe Annegan had the right idea, perhaps he quit coming in anticipation of the petty jealousies that would arise.

Gabby has seen this before, but I'll say this for Dr. Trout - at least he's humble. There was no living with Larry Selby when he had one, two or three Gabbys. Dane Konop wins four and refers to everyone else as "pitiful little fishermen" while claiming his obvious self inflicted superiority. First, it was stop Selby, then it was stop Konop, but that was easy because they were obnoxious about it. The problem now is that Jaymie not only is a great fisherman, but a gentleman as well, and that makes it that much harder for the old folks to deal with.

Retired? Hell, I hope Jaymie's just getting started. Michael Jordan retired, but guess what? - It's over. And if the Doctor competes, the trophy will be his until somebody wants it more. Incidentally, what ever happened to the theory that you don't catch the Gabby, that the Gabby chooses you? Have we forgotten? I'll tell you one person that hasn't and that's Dave Rubino, who went out and fished his butt off and proved that the Doctor can be given a run for his money. My God, does anybody remember the Miracle of Kettle Creek in 1990 when Glen Dworkin relieved Jaymie of the trophy?

Way back in 1983, Founder Larry Selby won his third Gabby and said it better and simpler than I ever could:

You want to win the Gabby? - Catch a bigger fish!!!

The Worm is an occasional publication of the Committee to Prevent Boring Business Meetings and Tired Camp Discussions. In keeping with the Gabby spirit, it has no rules or specific editorial perspective and pretty much prints whatever it damn well pleases. It makes no blatant attempt to offend anyone, yet frankly doesn't really care because anyone who could possibly be offended by this should definitely look into getting a life. After all, what do you want for nothing?