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ARE YOU READY... FOR THESE?

The 1991 fishing season is winding down and as I busy myself with preparations for the upcoming sport shows, I share with you some of the NEW PRODUCTS FOR '92...

Sales confidence is knowing that when I put lures on the pegboards, you the customer are going to buy them, but are you ready for these?

Need new lures? How about Smelly Jelly Baits, Bubblegum Worms, Slimy Slug (with a banana scent), Cruise minnows (in desert camouflage), Noodle Worms, Rattlin' Magnet, Gurgoprop, Rattling Hooker or the Breast Stroker? What happened to the common leech or the lowly nightcrawler?

Need a new rod? There are shining rods, rods that light along the blank with a slight pressure on the rod as an aid to detecting light strikes. Red lights blink the length of the rod.

Need a new reel? How about a reel with two speed, manual or automatic, shifting from 6.3:1 ratio to 3.8:1. You can adjust the timing of the shift so the reel shifts from high-speed to power-speed at the hook-set or maybe a spincast reel that automatically jerks and pulsates the line during retrieve for added lure action.

But of course you need new line to put on the reel. Shall we try some Hi Tech Scent Line with scent molecules mixed with the line formula in manufacturing, locking the scent in the line to escape slowly in the water to attract the fish?

And perhaps you need to replace your locator with one capable of looking in three directions at once (sideways, 45° or straight down). How about a global positioning system that has five-channel parallel receivers that simultaneously tracks up to five satellites resulting in fast updates and accuracy.

And for those sometimes early morning unanticipated, anxious activities an INFLATE-A-POTTY (with disposable plastic bag liners) to fit in the bow of your boat.

But don't worry, we will have a whole line of barbless hooks so we can Catch and Release or at least feel we are giving the fish a fair shake.

Until next month, keep faith and Take a Kid Fishing.

Bob

GIVE UP WHEN THE BOAT IS ON THE TRAILER

One thing you learn very early in your career, if you decide to become a fishing guide, is the fact that when people are paying you to take them out on the water, you had better bring back some fish. This doesn't mean a load of fish every time, but it does mean consistent production. So what happens if you've fished from 8 AM until 2.30PM and you haven't had a "hit"? Do you "give up and go in"? Or do you play the role and wait for 5 o'clock? WRONG! YOU DON'T STOP TRYING! Try another depth, try different jigs, try a different lake, or try a different speed, or try anything! BUT DON'T GIVE UP! The amateur fisherman, to be a consistent producer, must do the same. It's called, "Finding the pattern". Keep trying until you find the right bait for the right fish at the right depth.

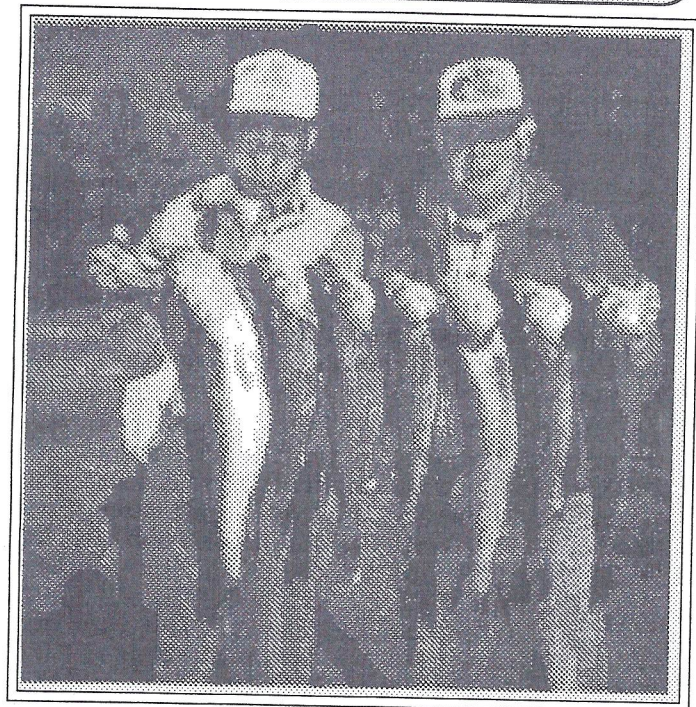
I'll give you an example. I had Harold Singer and Eddie Spivak fishing for Walleye with me on a warm summer day. All morning long we had no hits. After lunch I tried everything except dynamite. The early morning smiles were turning into afternoon frowns. No hits! So I kept moving from spot to spot to spot. Three o'clock and no Walleye! About three thirty I tried one side of a rocky point and no fish. The wind was moving us around the tip of the point so I figured, "What the heck, let's go all the way around the point". The problem was that I knew the other side of the point was shallow with some old trees laying in the water by the shoreline. The only thing we were going to catch was stumps. Harold, being a novice fisherman, cast his jig right up to the shoreline in two feet of water, and I got ready to replace that jig. BANG! WALLEYE NUMBER ONE. I almost fell out of the boat in my rush to net this one lucky catch. And he did get the fish out of those trees and into my net. And then he and Eddie proceeded to catch another, and another, and another. We got 12 more Walleye in that same spot in ten minutes. And then it was over. The ride home was very pleasant and the conversation seldom mentioned how hard we had "worked" all day. It focused on the last twenty minutes when we "hit" the fish. The \$25 tip wasn't bad either. Ever since then I don't give up until the boat is on the trailer. You shouldn't either.

If you've had the opportunity to spend very many hours out "on the water" after a cold front goes through and the icy north wind clears all the clouds from the "bluebird sky", you know that your time is probably better spent painting the fence. Well, in most cases I would agree. However, that situation confronted me years ago after I had previously "spotted" a big Musky in a weedbed near my house

Continued on page 3

~ ~ **MANITOWISH WATERS** ~ ~

Bob McClellan - Guide - Newsletter Publisher
Junction Tackle and Gift
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545
715-543-2776



Unseasonable weather, low temperatures and strong north to northwest winds in September gave us some tough fishing conditions on the Manitowish Chain. Water surface temperatures have dropped rapidly and are currently at 48°F.

Fall turnover will be taking place any day and usually disrupts fishing for a week to ten days, on that particular lake.

In October, you'll spend more time hunting to find fish, but they are much easier to catch once you locate them.

The walleye action was good on the Manitowish Chain in September. 1/8-oz yellow chartreuse or fluorescent pink jigs tipped with a minnow were number one. Most walleye were being caught at 18' to 22' on rocks, but with the rapidly dropping water temperatures they are currently at 25' to 30'.

If you're looking for a trophy walleye, or just a couple for the pan - either way, October is the month for catching them. Walleye are a lot more active and aggressive all day long.

Rest, Clear, Stone, Spider, Island, Manitowish, Little Star and Alder are all excellent choices for walleye in October. Use 1/8-oz or, if windy, use 1/4-oz chartreuse or fluorescent pink jigs tipped with minnows and fish

the deep rock and sand humps and shoreline breaks in 25' to 35' of water. In **Manitowish, Little Star** and **Rest** you'll sometimes find walleye at 35' to 45' of water. **Dead Pike Lake** is also an excellent October lake for walleye. Fish the rocks off the deep shoreline.

If high winds are keeping you from fishing your favorite lake, don't forget about river walleyes in October. With increased river flow, due to the draw-down of the chain, walleye fishing is excellent below the tube on the **Trout River** between **Wild Rice** and **Alder**. On the **Manitowish River** try the hole just down from **Island Lake Boat Landing**. Also, by the big rocks between **Island** and **Spider Lakes**, and also the narrows between **Stone** and **Rest Lake**. **Dam, Sturgeon** and **Benson**, the three lakes below the Manitowish Dam, are also excellent walleye and musky producers during October as well as the **River** channel between these lakes.

September musky fishing was slow at best on the chain. **Alder** produced one of the largest fish, a 23 1/4# 45" musky, caught by Scott Jenkins of Oregon, Wisconsin (1st place winner in the World Championship Musky Classic). Numerous musky were caught and released, most of which were 40" or less.

October is also a month for trophy fish. Large suckers and deep-running crank baits like Grandmas, Rizzo Divers, Bucher Depth Raiders, and weighted bucktails are recommended. **Rest, Spider, Manitowish, Little Star, Island** and **Dead Pike** are your best bets if you're looking for a real trophy.

Crappie action was slow in September but some real nice slabs are currently being caught in **Wild Rice** and also **Little Manitowish**. These fish are suspended about 15' down in 25' of water. A depth finder is a real asset to locate suspended crappie.

With the draw-down of the chain currently in progress, beware of the center rock bar in **Alder Lake** and the big rocks between **Island** and **Spider**. These are definitely navigation hazards!

Good Luck & Take a Kid Fishing

Bob

TIP OF THE MONTH

When fishing walleye in early October, lots of times the walleye will grab the minnow and just hang on for two minutes or more without swallowing the bait. So, when you tighten up and set the hook, all you get is a skinned-up minnow and no walleye! So, tie a short piece of 10# monofilament to the eye of your jig and add a 10# or 12# treble hook to the end of the monofilament. Insert the treble in the tail of the minnow and the next time you get a bite - don't wait - set the hook and you'll catch those short-hitters everytime.

Let's Go Fishing

with area guides

OCTOBER FISHING



PRESQUE ISLE - WINCHESTER AREA

Ken Reinicke

HC1 Box 37

Presque Isle, WI 54557 715-686-2033

Some lakes in the Winchester/ Presque Isle area receive comparatively little fishing "intelligent" fishing pressure and, therefore, can provide some of the best fishing in the whole north country.

For instance; ever fish for slab size Crappies on **Nosceum Lake**? Or have you fished for Bass or Northerns on **Stateline**? Ever tried for Walleyes on **Little Crab**, or Smallmouth Bass and Trout on **Anne**? I'd venture to say that no one reading this article has ever tried these lakes for these fish, but you surely ought to!

For instance; the crappies on **Nosceum** will hit those small tube jigs. And you don't let them tap it like you do with Walleyes. Hit them at the first bite, but don't set the hook too severely or you'll tear it out of their tender mouths. The trick to getting them after spring is location. Use that depthfinder and move around until you see those "clouds" on the screen, and then estimate the time you have to let that little jig drop through the water until it gets down to the Crappies. They will move so you have to keep track of them with your depthfinder.

The Bass on **Stateline** "love" leeches. Toss a sixteenth-ounce jig tipped with a leech along the edges of the weedbeds and "have a ball!". Then use some medium-size Redtails and go after the Northerns. Same place, same technique. Use a eighth-ounce jig with a number two steel hook for the Northerns, plus a leader. That way you can "tear" the hook out of the heavy weeds if it gets

stuck. You'll also get a better set in those tough, toothy mouths.

You have to slide a boat into **Little Crab** off South Crab Lake road. It's not hard to find. Use minnows on jigs and fish slow. There are a lot of points and bars.

Anne is a Smallmouth bonanza. You have to slide a boat down the edge of the shoreline to get into the lake but it's worth it. Leeches, crawlers, and small spinner baits take these terrific fighters, and you can catch the trout by row trolling along the deep bars using small spoons and spinner baits. You will need to add sinkers ahead of the baits to get them down to the fish, and then control the speed that you row. If one thing doesn't work, try something else.

I can add some more lakes to this list. Northerns and Largemouth Bass on **Whitney**. Walleyes and Largemouth Bass on **Rosalind**. Largemouth Bass and Muskies on **Minonk**. Walleyes and Muskies on **Little Horsehead**. Largemouth Bass on **Tamarack**. GOT YOU INTERESTED? Take the time to give these lakes a try when the weather, or "time of year" conditions are favorable. But don't be a dummy like me and tell everyone about them.

Keep your line tight,

Ken

Continued from page 1

on Catfish Lake. My problem was that I knew my neighbor had spotted that fish also, and I knew he was going to hit that weedbed every day until he caught that fish. Should I try it early in the morning before him, or will the effort simply be wasted? Cold fronts and active Muskies do not coincide I knew, but what if I don't go, and he gets lucky? I'd kick myself for years if I didn't try it. So down to the lake I go, into my old Rhinelander "Guide" boat, and out to the weedbed. I was casting a Musky Finn black bucktail along the edge of the weeds in about 7 feet of water. I made one pass and nothing. Just proved my point, I thought. But, that fisherman's "last cast" mentality took over so I rowed up-wind and started casting into the weeds. That lasted until the wind blew me into the weeds. So I turned and made another cast out to the deeper water. When the bucktail reached the edge of the weeds I gave it an extra jerk to raise the bucktail up to the surface. That's when the Musky hit.

It never jumped or ran hard or shook. It just swam along like it didn't know it was hooked. And all I could do was hold the rod tip up and hold on. But after going in and out of the weedbed three times, it swam past the stern of my boat. I had my gaff ready, and when it got close enough I "popped" it on the "soft spot" on it's head, and the fish was mine. NORTH WIND OR NOT! DON'T GIVE UP! Try different approaches, different colored lures, or different something. JUST GO! Find the pattern and you WILL catch fish.



October is the best month in the northwoods!

~ ~ ~ BOULDER JUNCTION AREA ~ ~ ~

TOM SWANSON'S GUIDE SERVICE

P O Box 144

Boulder Junction, WI 54512 715-385-2168

There just aren't enough hours in the day to do it all. Be it walleye or musky fishing, hunting or just looking at the beautiful fall color, October is the best month in the northwoods.

Most walleye fishermen seem to think May is the best month, but October really is the Premier month. Walleye are actively feeding in preparation for winter and we don't have to contend with the complication of spring spawning. In September, we fished 1/8 oz to 1/4 oz jigs tipped with medium chubs off rock and gravel bars at a depth of 20' of water. In October, we're going to be fishing 1/8 oz to 1/4 oz jigs tipped with medium chubs on the same rock bars, only now we're fishing at a depth of 20' to 40' of water. I have, on occasion, caught walleye as deep as 65'. If you can't find fish on your favorite rock bar just keep going deeper.

Here are two tips to remember for October walleye success. Fish deep rocky bottoms and fish very slowly. Your retrieve must keep the jig and chub very near the bottom, but still moving at all times from the beginning to the end of your cast. Deep water fishing takes lots of patience, but has proven to be very successful for late fall fishing.

My choices of lakes to fish in October in the Boulder Junction area are: **Big, Boulder, High and Big Muskellunge.**

Musky fishing in October can be the best or the worst of the year. The worst is caused by the fall lake turnover, which takes place in early to mid-October, every fall. The turnover seems to affect fishing in any lake for a period of 7 to 10 days, after which the fishing will again become good. One way to beat the turnover period is to fish lakes of 20' depth or less. At this depth, sometime during the day your bait will be near active fish.

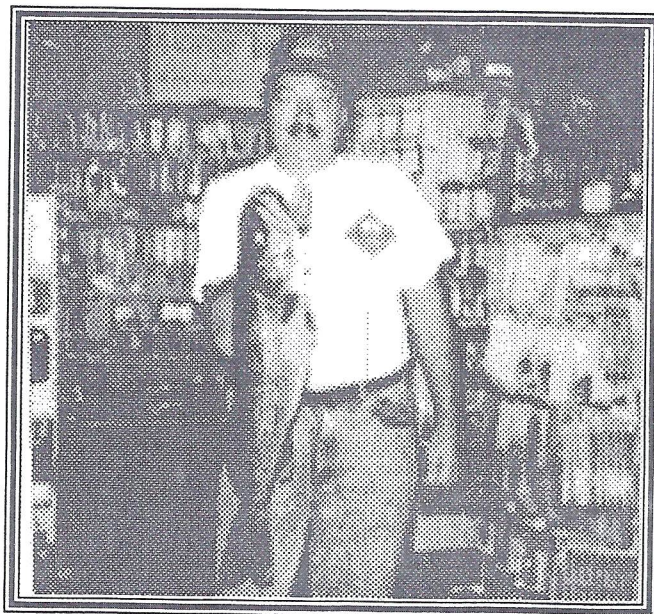
The best of October musky fishing is, the larger trophy fish are once again on or near the bars and shorelines. This location makes them much more catchable for us. Good choices for lures are the Striker and the weighted Suick. These jerk baits run deeper than most. Deep-diving crank baits, such as the Rizzo, Phantom Diver and Gramma baits work well with a slow to medium retrieve. Remember, these are hungry fish, but with the cooling water temperatures they don't have the speed they had in July and August.

Sucker fishing is very popular in October and over the years has produced some of the largest fish taken on hook and line. I prefer to fish with suckers in the clear, deep, cisco holding lakes, using a very large (15" to 20") sucker. I free swim the sucker 50' to 75' from the boat without the aid of a bobber. This allows the sucker to cover more depth ranges by going up and down in the water.

Always carry a good pair of wire cutters, in case a fish is hooked deep and you want to release it. Just cut the wire leader as close to the hook as possible. This will give the fish a better chance to survive than attempting to remove the hook.

Some good lake choices for fall Musky fishing in the Boulder Junction area are: **High, Big, Fishtap and Upper Gresham.** And Remember, For good fishing any season, practice CATCH and RELEASE all year 'round.

Tom

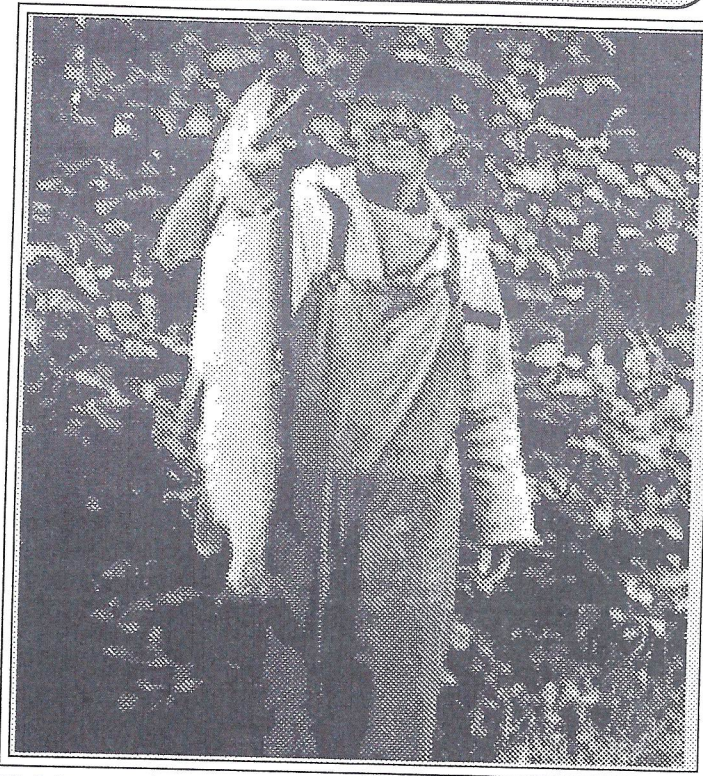


~ ~ ~ **LAC DU FLAMBEAU AREA** ~ ~ ~

John Beda-Guide

3425 Hwy 47

Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54548 715-588-9150



Fishing in the Lac du Flambeau area has been on the upswing in September. With the water cooling off and the shortness of the days, the walleye and musky are starting to snap.

Musky were active on surface lures the first half of September and some big fish were taken on the **Flambeau Chain**. In October, it's time for large suckers, Eddie Baits, deep-diving Smity's, and weighted Suicks. October is a month for trophy musky. **White Sand, Little Trout** and the entire **Flambeau Chain** are all good choices for trophy musky during October.

Walleye fishing was good in September using 1/8-oz jigs tipped with minnows. **Ike Walton, Pokegama, White Sand** and **Crawling Stone** were producing some nice catches at 20' to 25' depths. In October, use 1/8-oz or 1/4-oz jigs tipped with 3" chubs and work the deep rock and gravel bars at 25' to 30' - sometimes, 40'+.

Good choices for October are **White Sand, Little Trout, Pokegama, Long, Crawling Stone** and **Fence**.

Smallmouth Bass were active on **Little Trout** - off the weeds in 18' to 22' of water and also on the rocks at 20' during September. Look for the action to pick up in October but use minnows and fish the rocks at 25' to 30'.

A few panfish are being taken on **Moss Lake** and some

real nice jumbo perch have been snapping on **White Sand** and **Pokegama** in 20' to 25' of water on jigs and walleye-sized fat-heads.

The northerns have been biting on jigs and minnows and also artificials on **Fence** and **Pokegama**. Lots of small ones but also some good-sized fish as well.

John Beda

774 Fished the WCM Classic

The 1991 World Championship Musky Classic welcomed 774 contestants to the 15th annual event on September 6, 7, and 8. 29 lakes were searched for the elusive Musky during the three day event with 60 legal fish brought to the scales. All but three fish were released to fight again, which proves that the "Classic" fishermen and women are more concerned about the Musky than they are their own egos.

First place in the Sportsman's Division went to Scott Jenkins of Oregon, WI, who registered his first ever Musky, an Alder Lake 23 lb, 4 oz fish. Scott spent nearly two hours at Greer's Pier trying to revive the fish after the catch, but the fish did not respond. Scott's fish momentarily gave the "Musky Busters" Club from Oregon the lead in the "Team" Division also. Second place went to Dave Schnell of Chicago, IL, with a 21 lb, 41 inch fish from Trout Lake. Randy Redfield of Madison, WI registered the third place fish, a 20 lb, 13 oz Fishtrap Lake Musky. Pat McConnell of Madison, WI, grabbed fourth with a 19 lb, 14 oz Clear Lake Musky, and Robert Gushiken of La Crosse, WI, registered his first ever Musky, a 19 lb Van Vliet Lake fish.

The "Open" Division winner was James Bolton of Eau Claire, WI, with a 13 lb 12 oz Trout Lake Musky.

The "Club" Division was won by Team Swanson, headquartered in Boulder Junction, WI, with a three heaviest fish total weight of 44 lbs, 14 ozs. Second was Musky Busters of Oregon, WI, with 43 lbs, 2 ozs. Third was Team Retreat from Presque Isle, WI, with 36 lbs, 4 ozs.

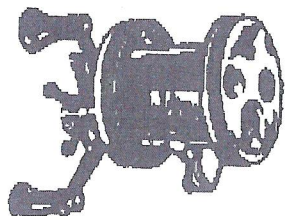
The World Championship Musky Classic's Ben Bendrick Memorial Scholarship Fund was the beneficiary of the generosity of three of the area Musky clubs. Team Swanson donated \$1050 to the scholarship fund, Team Retreat donated \$1500.00, and the Headwaters Chapter of Muskies, Incorporated, donated \$500.00. This fund provides for an annual award of \$4000.00 to a North Lakeland Elementary School student who attends a post secondary school. Thanks to contributions like these, that fund is alive and well. Three students are currently being funded from this scholarship.

Thanks to everyone involved with "The Classic" for all the work, and we'll do it all over again next year when the awards will be held at Presque Isle.

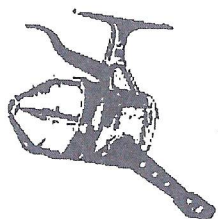
Specials of the Month

(for Newsletter subscribers only)

PRICES GOOD TIL 10/30/91



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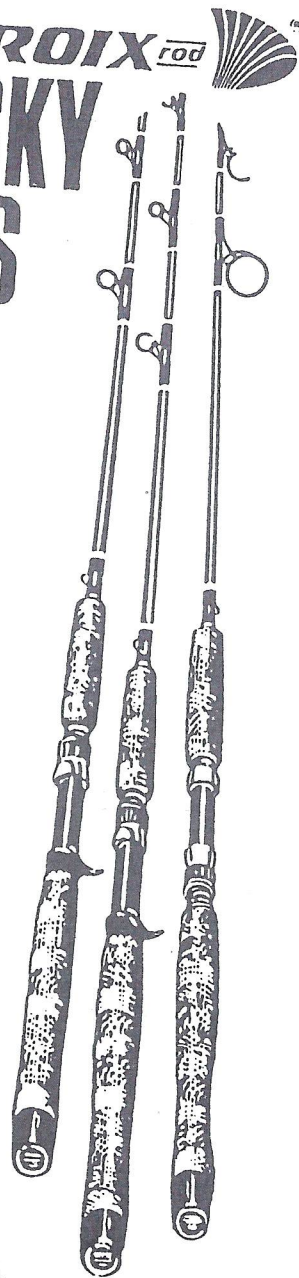
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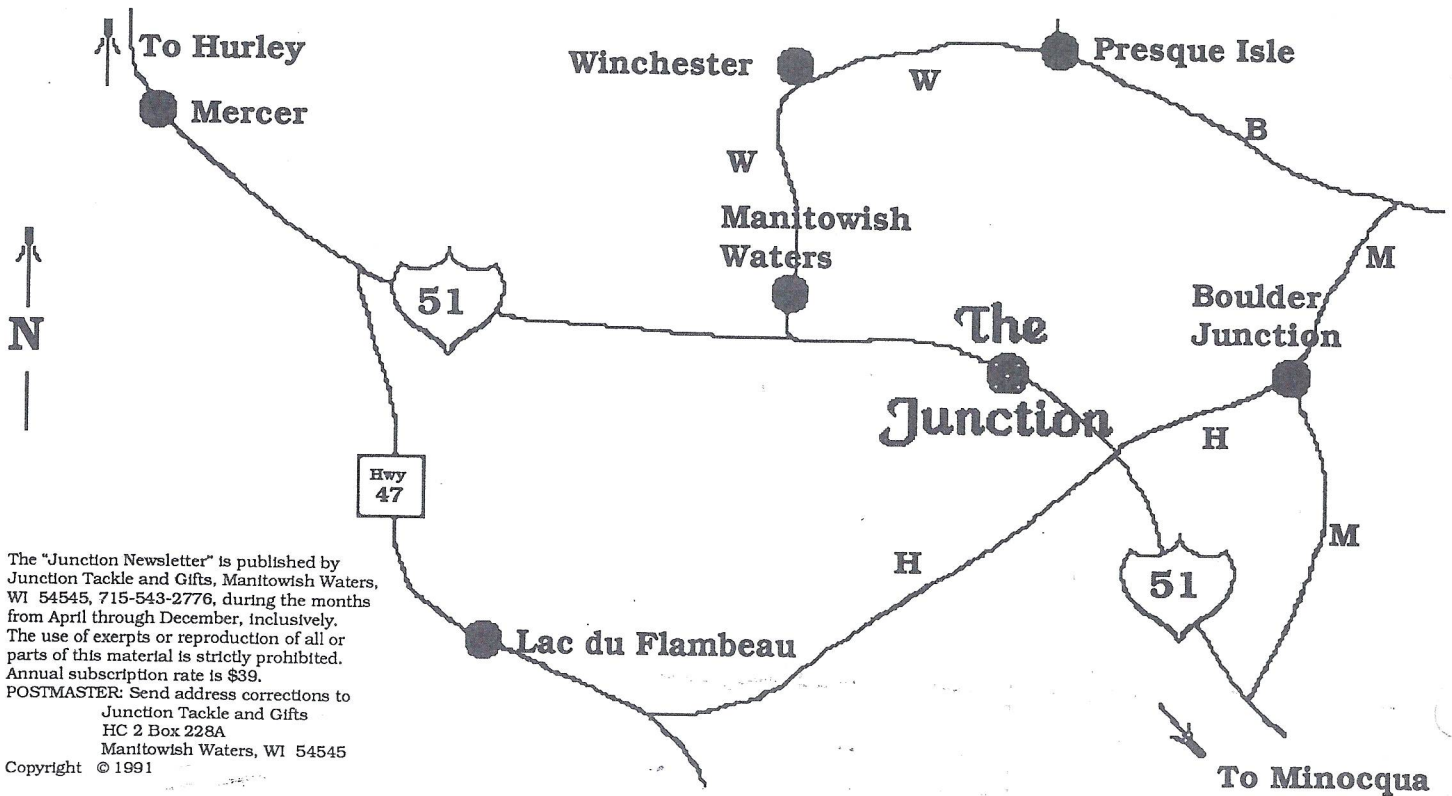
THE JUNCTION
NEWSLETTER

HC 2 Box 228A
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545



0061
JAMES BOKERN
1226 E 20TH ST
MARSHFIELD WI 54449

4/93



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