



THE AMERICAN CARP SOCIETY

e-Newsletter

OCTOBER 2005

Published by Stewart J. McKenzie  
Editor: Karly Sokolowski

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS - An Interview with Al St. Cyr

We always want to hear from our members. Send us your fish tales and pictures (JPEG pictures required) and we will put your name in lights. Don't forget to include the important details: name, weight of fish and where it was caught.

"Al, you are quite well known in the Carping circles in the USA; however, I am sure that there are many people who do not know you or would like to know more about you. Please tell us about yourself and how you became involved in carp fishing. I believed you mentioned that you initially started with bass fishing. When did you catch the "carp bug"?"

Well I'm 22 years old and an 'on again, off again' student. I started fishing when I was around 5 or 6 for just about anything I could catch, which at that time was mostly sunfish. My interest in carp fishing started when I was 9 and I was fishing below a dam. This guy had one on and it gave him one hell of a fight. Several days later and I was back with some doughbait, I had a few to 10lbs. Ever since then I've been hooked.



*Al with a nice Town Lake fish*

I know that you fish down here at Town Lake in Austin quite a bit.... a magnificent water which holds a good head of large fish. For the readers that haven't been lucky enough to fish it yet Town lake is actually more like a very large river isn't it? Can you tell us a little about Town Lake, the fish there and your tactics and approach?

Town Lake is one of my favorite lakes to fish, even though it can be very hit or miss. I think there's 4 or 5 main shoals containing several hundred fish that range between upper doubles to high twenties. I also believe there are several smaller

shoals containing low to mid thirties. With most or all of the lakes largest fish being the nomadic residents. In my opinion the largest fish in Town Lake is in the mid fifties range. My approach to fishing Town Lake depends on...

*continued on Page 9*

# BIG FISH AWARD

The American Carp Society offers a cash prize to its members for the largest fish caught in both the spring and fall seasons. This \$500 per season award is expected to increase over time as the membership of ACS grows. Check out the BIG FISH AWARDS link on the

[www.americancarpsociety.com](http://www.americancarpsociety.com) website. Send in your entries throughout the year and watch the E-Newsletter for updates of the top contestant. Send in your entry to [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com) with BIG FISH AWARD in the subject line.

## BIG FISH AWARD UPDATE

– Check out these pictures of the current leader, Pavel Hastik, with his 41lb Florida mirror. Send us your BIG FISH pictures.



# BECOME AN ACS MEMBER

Check out the ACS Membership link on [www.americancarpsociety.com](http://www.americancarpsociety.com) and **JOIN TODAY!**

## FISHING DATABASE (A NEW ACS MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT)

ACS has created a carp fishing journal for YOU. Many members already keep track of where and when they fish and what they use for bait. We believe that participating members will compile an invaluable database as a resource. All the data that you collect has been assembled into an easy to fill-out form, which are in journals that are personalized for you. See example (below) of data collecting sheet. Each member can enter the

information they are comfortable sharing (watch for link on the website) OR mail the journal back to ACS and we will enter the information for you. If you don't want to divulge that new secret spot, that's not a problem. We just ask that you share the basic information and the state in which you fished. On a quarterly basis, ACS members will receive information compiled from the database such as: best days to fish, best baits to use, and best rigs. REMEMBER...this important information will only be available to ACS members. **Check out the following link and begin entering your information: <http://www.americancarpsociety.com/fishdb.html>.** Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding the database.

Date:	Venues:	
Sunrise:	Solunar Majors:	
Sunset:	Solunar Minors:	
Moonrise:		
Moonset:		
Water Temperature (degrees F):	Air Temperature (degrees F):	
Surface:	8 AM	
3 ft:	Noon	
10 ft:	4 PM	
15 ft:	8 PM	
20 ft:	Mean Phase:	
Water Clarity:	Clear	Strained
Water Level: (ft):	High	Normal/Low
Swim Location: (Place Coordinates)		
PK Level: (ft)		
Fish Seen?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/> How Often?
Pre-Bait:	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/> What Was Used?
Groundbaiting:	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/> What Was Used?
Rod Number:	1	2
Depth fished: (ft)	3	4
Temperature of Water:	5	6
Structure: B/W/S/M	7	8
Bite Number:	1	2
Time:	3	4
M / FF / L / C	5	6
Sky Conditions: C/P/C/O	7	8
Wind Power: C/B/B/W/S		
Wind Direction: N/S/E/W		
Precipitation: N/L/M/H		
Barometric Value: (a.k.p)		
Bait Flavor:		
Bait Type: B/W/S/C/P/O		
Rig Type: (a)		
Hair Length: (mm)		
Type of Carp: C/M/K/L		
Weight: (lb. oz)		
Length: (in/oz)		
Girth: (in/oz)		
Picture # (on camera)		
Rig Type #1		
Rig Type #2		
Rig Type #3		
Rig Type #4		
Rig Type #5		

## LENDING LIBRARY (A NEW ACS Membership Benefit)

ACS is creating a lending library for YOU. We are currently gathering books for you to borrow (\$5/ book). All you will have to do is complete the form (which will be found on the website) and we will mail you the book requested OR send us an email at [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com); Subject line: Lending Library and we will contact you to gather more information. The grace period will be 30 days and you will be provided with a prepaid envelope so can just drop the envelope into the mailbox when you are ready to return the book. We are happy to accept any books that you might like to donate to the ACS lending library so that others may enjoy the information. Are there any books that you think ACS should have in the lending library? Let us know!

## MEMBERSHIP

Check out the ACS Membership link on [www.americancarpsociety.com](http://www.americancarpsociety.com) and JOIN TODAY!

Many ACS members have already received renewal information in their INBOX. Log on to the e-store today and click on the ACS membership link to renew. Do it TODAY! Two renewal membership options are available:

**Option 1 (\$45)** – Limited ACS T-shirt (black with gold lettering), Carp Recording Journal (see Fishing Database for more information), ACS benefits which include: monthly e-newsletter, 10% discount at E-Store, 10% discount on entry fees into National Competitions, 10% discount on Enterprise Car Rentals in the U.S., participation in \$500 BIG FISH AWARD (awarded twice yearly), participation in Web Competition, Access to Fishing Journal Database, Access to Lending Library, and packet of ACS hooks.

**Option 2 (\$35)** – All items stated option 1 with the EXCEPTION of ACS T-Shirt

**Junior Carp Membership (\$25)** – Available to individuals 18 years and younger. Junior Membership will include: ACS limited T-shirt (black with gold lettering), ACS tackle hooks, and all the benefits ACS members receive. Benefits include: monthly e-newsletter, 10% discount at E-Store, 10% discount on entry fees into National Competitions, 10% discount on Enterprise Car Rentals in the U.S., participation in \$500 BIG FISH AWARD (awarded twice yearly), participation in Web Competition, Access to Fishing Journal Database, and Access to Lending Library.

**REFER YOUR FRIEND AND GET A FREEBIE...ACS is holding a membership drive – For every NEW member that joins ACS, the referring member will receive a \$10 gift certificate to the E-Store (No limit on the number of NEW members that a referring member may submit.) Membership drive will run until December 31, 2005. We can't wait to meet your friends.**

## What is ACS Director David Moore Up To?

David and his brother, Jon Ed Moore, have created an amazing partnership and have taken over ownership of the E-Store. Inventory is now stored in the state of Oklahoma. Questions about tackle/equipment and orders can still be directed to [sales@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:sales@americancarpsociety.com). At the current time, the E-Store has over 500 DIFFERENT ITEMS and 300 NEW ITEMS will be added within the next month. Check out the WIDE selection. The E-Store now has the equipment that was used during the 2005 World Carp Championship listed. Be sure to log on for some SUPER deals. Please let David know if there is something specific you would carried. The E-Store is also accepting wholesale orders. For more information send an email to [wholesale@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:wholesale@americancarpsociety.com). Jon Ed is the master behind the E-Store website scene and plans on doing some exciting promotions this fall and winter. Be sure to stay tuned for some great deals. David is also starting to promote the 2006 Texas Carp Challenge. He will be traveling to the

Austin area the first weekend in October and conducting a few carp angling seminars during the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Outdoor Expo. He will be focusing on the basics of how to get started carp fishing and a few tricks that will allow anglers to put more fish on the bank.

### ADVERTISE IN THE E-NEWSLETTER

### ...GET YOUR WORD OUT TO HUNDREDS

The E-Newsletter is a great place to tell others about your business services.

#### ADVERTISING RATES:

1/8 page = \$20    1/4 page = \$30  
1/2 page = \$40    Full page = \$60

Emails can be directed to:  
[sales@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:sales@americancarpsociety.com);  
Subject line: E-Newsletter Ads

### ...SEPTEMBER WEB COMPETITION ANSWERS...

We didn't have a winner for the September Web Competition, but here's the answers anyway!

1. **What is the name of the first purpose built carp rod here in the USA?**

**Answer; MIA**

2. **What is the common name for manufactured boiled baits?**

**Answer; BOILIES**

3. **What is the group that the following baits belong to...maize, hemp, garbanzo beans, chick peas, peanuts?**

**Answer; PARTICLES**

4. **What are the three most common types of cyprinus Carpio strains?**

**Answer; COMMON, MIRROR, LEATHER**



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For immediate release  
September 15, 2005

## AMERICAN CARP SOCIETY ANNOUNCES AUSTIN AS SITE FOR INAUGURAL TEXAS CARP CHALLENGE

### Unprecedented Quarter Million Cash Prize for New Texas Carp Record

Bartlesville, OK --- The American Carp Society announced today that Austin has been selected as the site for the first annual ACS Texas Carp Challenge (TCC) March 26-31, 2006. A prize pool like none other in the sport of catch and release carp angling will be offered at the premier tournament.

One lucky angler has the chance to win an astounding \$250,000 cash prize should the new Texas state record for *cyprinus carpio* be established at the competition. Town Lake yielded the current record of 41.5 pounds in March 2005 according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The coveted "Big Four" bonus cash prize of \$25,000 could be awarded to the participant who brings in the four largest fish with a total weight grander than 130 pounds combined during the event.

"These prizes are unprecedented in carp angling," says David Moore, tournament coordinator and a director of the American Carp Society. "As we see the sport of catch and release carp angling gaining momentum in the United States, tournaments and the prizes will undoubtedly grow larger."

"Carp angling is widely accepted in many other countries around the world, so it is certain this tournament will see some international anglers as well," continues Moore. "We expect a good number of talented and acclaimed carp anglers to compete."

The six day tournament will be headquartered in Austin. Competitors will draw for peg position and set out to fish within a seventy-five mile radius of Austin, the Greater Travis County and lower Colorado River region. The 120 hour endurance and skill competition commences on March 26 and ends on March 31. A number of cash and tackle prizes will be awarded throughout the tournament and at the awards ceremonies in Austin.

Texas Carp Challenge registration information, call 918-289-6774 or visit the American Carp Society website at [www.americancarpsociety.com](http://www.americancarpsociety.com).

The American Carp Society provides a broad array of services which include carp tackle and equipment e-store, educational materials and publications, regional and national tournaments and contests. ACS is dedicated to the sport of catch and release carp fishing and promotes the conservation of the species.

# # #

AMERICAN CARP SOCIETY ▪ PO BOX 1502 ▪ BARTLESVILLE OK 74005

## FIELD REPRESENTATIVES AND ANGLERS NEEDED

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AN ACS SALES REPRESENTATIVE?

ACS is expanding into the wholesale tackle business. We are currently recruiting interested regional sales persons who want to get in on the ground floor of an organization that is quickly GROWING. If you are interested in becoming a sales representative for your region or have questions about becoming a representative, please send an email to: [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com); subject line: Tackle Representative. One of the benefits of becoming an ACS Sales Representative is the opportunity to field test tackle and equipment. What a great way to try it before you buy it!

The American Carp Society has been approached by international tackle manufacturers and carp related companies. These companies are periodically looking for field representatives and anglers in the USA. If you are interested please submit a one page background of carp angling and what it means to you as an angler in the USA. Don't forget to include pictures! We will forward your information to the company representatives. Most of the companies are offering a discount on tackle from their company and will expect the angler to promote their products whenever possible. Some financial assistance for expenses towards tournaments and tackle shows might be available. For more information or to submit information please send information to [david@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:david@americancarpsociety.com); Subject Line: Field Rep.

### ANGLER of the YEAR AWARD

Send in your nominations for ACS Angler of the Year Award. Three nominees will be voted on by ACS members.

- Deadline for nominations: October 1st, 2005
- Send nominations to [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com); subject line: Angler of the Year

Send in your nominations TODAY!!

### CAN WE FIND YOU?

Please be sure to send us your updated contact and email information so that you won't miss out on any GREAT NEWS!! Send updates to: [support@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:support@americancarpsociety.com); subject line: Update Information

We'd also LOVE to hear about YOUR exciting carp news. Send us your fish tales and we'll share them with other ACS members.

### AN EXCITING NEW MEMBER BENEFIT...

ACS members will now be provided with John Alden Knight's Original Solunar Tables. The solunar major and minor times will be provided in our monthly newsletter.



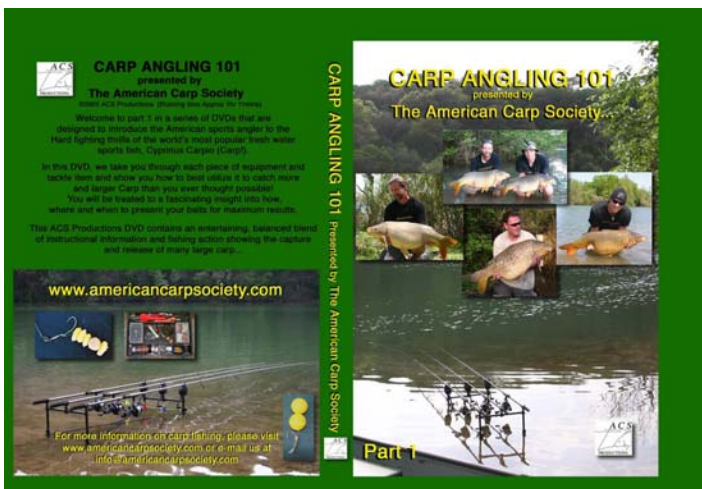
**SPAM ALERT.** Many of our members on our mailing list have spam software. Please update your address books to include the following addresses so that you don't miss out on any updates that we are trying to send you. The e-mail addresses include: [mail@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:mail@americancarpsociety.com) and [sales@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:sales@americancarpsociety.com).

## DIRECTORS CORNER

Sean Manning Input: "Hi everyone! I hope that you are all out there catching a few fish this year. I'm always interested in hearing about captures from our ACS members, so please send us your JPEG FISH pictures. Is it true that someone caught a 52 lb 14 oz fish from the St. Lawrence River? Would love to hear about it. Don't forget about the ACS Nationals in October. I hope to see you all there as it is a beautiful lake and will test a lot of anglers as the fish are tough to catch. Cheers, Sean"

Wayne Boon Input: Hello! Welcome to the October 2005 A.C.S. Newsletter! I hope you've all had a great summer fishing and a fantastic 2005 thus far outside of angling!! Let's get down to some news... We are very proud to announce the release of the 1st in a series of DVDs by A.C.S. Productions and its called Carp Angling 101 Part 1. This new DVD can be purchased on the E-Store. Carp Angling 101 Part 1 is 71 minutes long and is aimed at anglers who are relatively new to the sport and want to dramatically flatten the learning curve involved in becoming a more efficient carp angler. Tons of information, tips and hints are included so that all anglers at any level can increase their catch rate. There was too much information to include in this first DVD, so watch for Carp Angling 101 Part 2 which is expected to be released in the spring of 2006. This second DVD will include more in-depth techniques related to carp angling as well as exciting fish action.

in the DVD as well as introducing the viewer to many more helpful tips. A.C.S. Productions plans on releasing a second DVD by the end of 2005. Dave "there's just no justice in this world" Moore takes us around Town Lake, Texas and explains some of the more popular swims and opens Town Lake up to anglers who may have not yet been fortunate enough to have fished this magnificent lake. We show and explain the many techniques and tips we commonly employ on our sessions. There will be plenty of 20s, 30s and even a couple of 40 lbs included for Mr. "feather in my Cap" Manning! Another DVD expected to be released in March 2006 is titled "Mirror Session" which was filmed on the Blackfoot Reservoir in Idaho. Over 70 carp were caught on this amazing stretch of water and each one caught was a stunning looking mirror carp. We were in absolute heaven fishing on the reservoir and hopefully you will get as much enjoyment from the DVD as we did actually fishing & filming the session. ACS Productions and Time Warner Cable are working together on a documentary that is based on the 2005 World Carp Championship that was hosted on the St. Lawrence River, NY in June. This documentary is expected to be a very exciting, no punches pulled program showing all the successes, disappointments and viewpoints from all sides of the field. Its real life, nothing is covered up! Stay tuned for release date. In other news, due to the work load of ACS Productions, some reorganization has occurred, which enables us to be more efficient in our day-to-day operations. The American Carp Society has moved the E-Store to Oklahoma which has allowed it to offer more benefits for the carp angler. Log on today to check out the new products and equipment that are offered. Look for changes in the ACS message board as we include other topic areas of interest. Thank you for your patience while we are under construction. Please keep all your JPEG photos coming in of your captures both large and small. Don't forget to wear your ACS membership t-shirt as you might be the next winner of the \$500 BIG FISH award. We like to not only feature you in our gallery but also to send them to Carp angling publications around the world for publication. This helps put USA rod & line, catch & release Carp fishing firmly at the front of the world's Carp Angler's minds as well as having the added benefit of publicity for you and your area of the country! Each month I'd like to briefly cover a small aspect of our sport but as many of you are aware, the subject matter that could be discussed is vast. It is difficult to know where to start so I am encouraging readers to write us at [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com) or [wayne@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:wayne@americancarpsociety.com) and recommend topics. Or if you would like to contribute to the e-newsletter about a specific topic, please forward us that information. All the best, Wayne.



*Carp Angling 101 Part 1 DVD jacket cover*

Carp Angling 101 Part 1 discusses the set up of a typical Carp fishing session. The DVD includes information about tackle used, successful rigs, how to find underwater features that carp favor when feeding, and baiting techniques and carp safety. The DVD culminates in the capture of 8 wonderful fish caught during a two day session on Town Lake in Austin, Texas. The capture of these fish reinforce all the techniques shown earlier

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...ENTER TODAY...

Anglers are invited to participate in the  
**2nd Annual ACS National Tournament**  
October 26th – 29th, 2005, Hominy, OK

\* Maximum Entry of 20 Teams

**Entry Fee:**

- 2 anglers/team
- ACS members: \$500/team (@least 1 angler must be an ACS member)
- Non-ACS members \$550/team

Everyone Entered in Tournament will WIN Something...Tackle is already valued at thousands of \$\$\$

**SPRO Tackle** 3 alarm sets with sounder boxes; 100 litre ruck sacks, carry alls, plus MORE  
**Fox Tackle** 2 Fox Sky Pods; 2 Easy Domes, and other Fox items  
**ACS Tackle** Shelters and MIA rods

Cash Awards will be determined by the number of entries and announced at a later date Check ACS | National link on [www.americancarpsociety.com](http://www.americancarpsociety.com) for rules and updates.

\*\*\*\*\* 2006 WCC Host (South Africa) has announced that U.S.A. will be granted 6 teams.  
This tournament will in part determine qualifying teams for the 2006 WCC. \*\*\*\*\*

- Team deposits are now being accepted (\$250). The remaining entry fee is due by October 15, 2005. Deposits will be forfeited if entry fee is not paid in full by October 15, 2005.
- Please make checks payable to: American Carp Society and mail to: ACS, PO Box 1502, Bartlesville, OK 74005-1502.
- Credit card and paypal information can be processed by sending an email to [events@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:events@americancarpsociety.com); subject line: National Tournament.
- If you have any questions about the event, please email [events@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:events@americancarpsociety.com).

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE?**

Is there a book you've read that ACS members might enjoy?

A website or documentary you've found particularly informative?

Please let ACS know. Email at [info@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:info@americancarpsociety.com);  
Subject Line: What Do You Like?

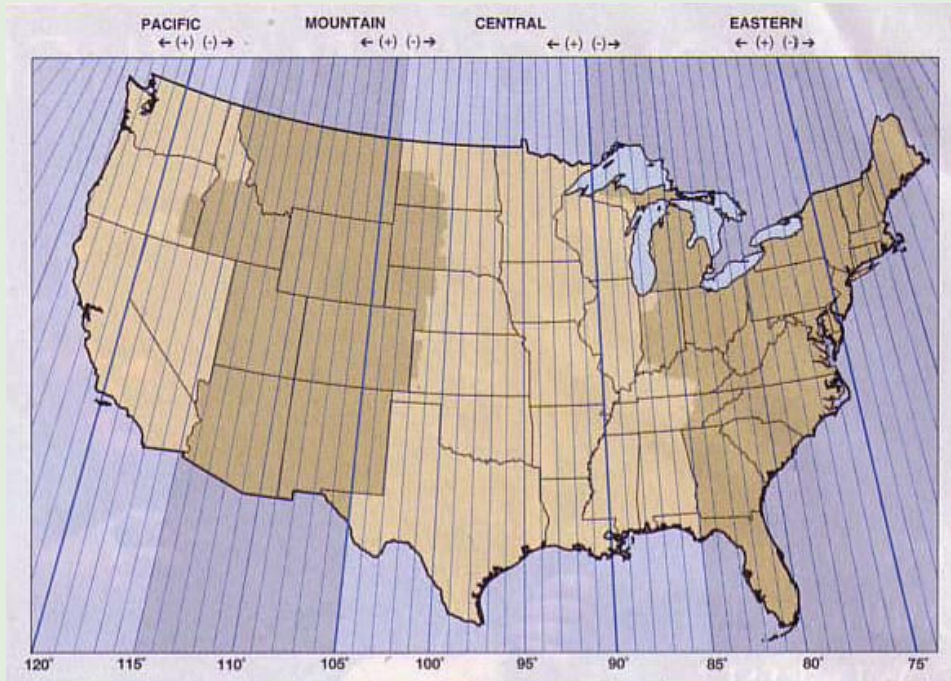


**ACS, BASS PRO AND YOU**



ACS is negotiating with Bass Pro. One of the areas in which ACS members can help is by conducting carp seminars at your local Bass Pro store. ACS will help you schedule a time with Bass Pro for your seminars, while Bass Pro will take care of promoting the carp seminar in your area. ACS will provide you with informational literature and presentation ideas and will also pay for minimal costs incurred by the presenter. This is a GREAT opportunity for you to share the thrill and excitement of carp fishing with other anglers.

If you are interested in helping out and promoting our great sport of carp angling to the public, please contact us at [membership@americancarpsociety.com](mailto:membership@americancarpsociety.com); subject line: Bass Pro Seminar



## SOLUNAR PHASES (map above reprinted from [In-Fisherman magazine](#))

### SOLUNAR TABLES for OCTOBER 2005

*PRINTED IN STANDARD TIME - ADD 1 HR. FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME. Solunar Periods begin approximately at the times shown in the SOLUNAR TABLES and continue for about an hour to two hours thereafter.*

*PLEASE NOTE: You will need to adjust your times depending on your location in the United States.*

Date	Day	AM		PM		Date	Day	AM		PM	
		Minor	Major	Minor	Major			Minor	Major	Minor	Major
1	Sat	3:05	9:10	3:20	9:30	17	Mon	4:05	10:15	4:25	10:40
2	Sun	3:45	9:45	4:00	10:05	18	Tue	4:55	11:05	5:15	11:30
3	Mon	4:20	10:20	4:35	10:45	19	Wed	5:45	----	6:25	12:05
4	Tue	5:00	11:10	5:20	11:30	20	Thur	6:40	12:30	7:15	1:00
5	Wed	5:45	----	6:15	12:00	21	Fri	7:40	1:30	8:20	2:00
6	Thur	6:35	12:25	7:10	12:50	22	Sat	8:40	2:30	9:10	2:55
7	Fri	7:30	1:20	8:00	1:45	23	Sun	9:40	3:30	10:15	3:55
8	Sat	8:30	2:20	9:05	2:50	24	Mon	10:35	4:25	11:05	4:50
9	Sun	9:35	3:25	10:10	3:55	25	Tue	11:25	5:15	11:55	5:40
10	Mon	10:40	4:30	11:20	5:00	26	Wed	----	6:00	12:15	6:20
11	Tue	11:35	5:25	----	5:55	27	Thur	12:35	6:40	12:50	7:00
12	Wed	12:10	6:20	12:30	6:45	28	Fri	1:15	7:15	1:25	7:35
13	Thur	1:00	7:10	1:20	7:35	29	Sat	1:50	7:50	2:05	8:10
14	Fri	1:50	8:00	2:15	8:25	30	Sun	2:25	8:30	2:40	8:50
15	Sat	2:40	8:45	3:00	9:10	31	Mon	3:05	9:05	3:20	9:30
16	Sun	3:25	9:30	3:40	9:50						

Moon in Apogee - Oct. 26

Moon in Perigee - Oct. 14

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS *(continued from front cover)*

...several factors including how much time I have to fish, how many people have been fishing, how long have they been fishing, the sizes of fish they've had and which way the fish seem to be moving. Once I've got all the information I'll chose my area and tactics.

When several people have been fishing I like to get the long-range stuff out and stagger the baits. Normally starting about 20 yards past where they've been fishing all the way to as far as I can chuck it. The baits in that situation tend to be single over flavored pop-ups or snowman rigs with an attractor bottom bait and quality food pop up.

However when it's not being fished hard I like to put loads of bait in. In a normal session like this I'll go through 10-15 kilos of boilies, 15-20 kilos of particles and 20-50 kilos of pellets. I'll put a line straight across the lake around 10 yards wide, but I won't fish on top of it. One rod will go out as far I can get, often with a single hookbait around 5 yards to either side of the line. A second rod will go out about 100 yards, just the other side of the bait. The other rods will be on whatever features I can find between 40 and 80 yards out with either a stringer or pva bag, depending on the distance.

An excellent approach, having fished the lake myself you couldn't be more spot on with the "hit or miss" analogy ! ..... Although I must say that there wasn't much "missing" going on with your fishing these last few days mate!

What's been your largest fish from Town Lake?



*Al with his 46 lb 14 oz Texas State Record*

The largest fish I've had at Town Lake was 46lbs 14oz. It was caught fishing the side of a bar with the method and maize.....the same fish that you caught!

And what about the most memorable session?

My most memorable session at Town Lake was in April of 2002. Enriqou Hernandez and I went down for the weekend. We arrived at 4:30 am our rods in at 5 am the fish were having it straight away. Most of the fish that weekend were mid 20s but both of us managed to get a few bigger. Each of us had 24 fish. Enriqou had six over 30 the largest being 37+. I also had six over 30 but two in a row over 40lbs the biggest going 42.10. During that weekend we had so little sleep the action never stopped.



*A 52 lb common from Town Lake in 2002*

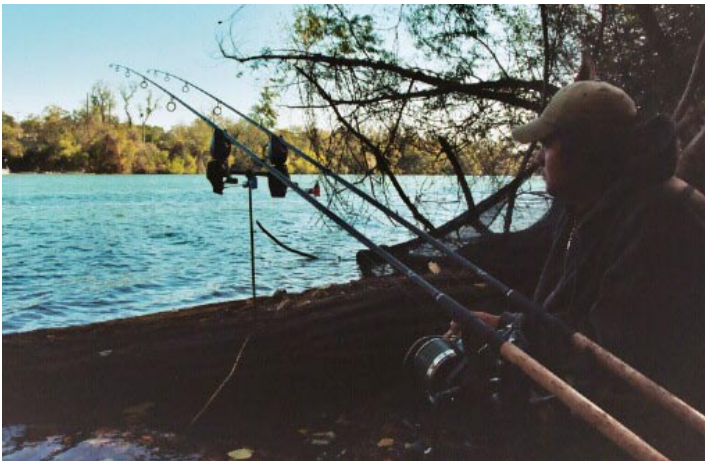
Wonderful stuff, the type of sessions that we all long for! I know that you have travelled to Romania for the World Cup and team USA in 2002, how was that experience for you?

Romania was like a dream... Tim drew an excellent swim for us I think it was peg 75? Anyway, it was right next to the Shepherds cottage and straight across from Beckers point. There were massive trees coming out of the water a huge Bay of a couple hundred acres with pegs spread out as far as we

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

could see. At dusk the first night it was amazing. Giant fish rolling and crashing several hundred yards out and sounding as if someone was throwing boulders in our swim, it was truly awesome.

The fishing was a little bit different than what I was used to. When you had a take you held onto the spool and walked backwards until the fish cleared the snags. If the fish stayed on that long most of the time you'd land it. Unfortunately some of the larger fish would have none of that. They'd take line off your locked up drag and proceed to the middle of the lake making them impossible to land! We lost half the fish we hooked. It was insane fishing to say the least. All of the fish I had during the event were caught in the snags anywhere from 100-140yds out. With 25lb mainline it was extremely hard work getting the baits out to the fish. I used a variety of baits during the World Carp Cup including a fishmeal from Knockout Baits, N R G from mainline and a milk protein bird food bait. Tim wound up with a 36+ for his biggest and my biggest was 42+. In the end we had twelve fish and fifth place, a great week of fishing.



*Al in the 'Jungle' Swim!*

Have you had the chance yet to fish back in England yet?

My fishing in England has been limited to a day session on St. Ives lagoon in Cambridgeshire, which I believe is right around where you grew up in England! It was a great experience for me, I had a walk round the lake to see if I could spot any movement and saw a few fish sunning themselves next to a weed bed. There were two fat mirrors and

a nice long common. The two mirrors both looked to be well over thirty and the common looked to be a high twenty. I ran all the way back to get my stuff. When I returned they were still there, just chilling out trying to soak up the afternoon sun. I'd no idea what I was doing as this was my first time surface fishing, so every few minutes I'd put a few mixers out. After about an hour had passed away I started to think they weren't in the mood for mixers and a duck came round. As soon as Mr. Duck started to have them so did the carp. Anyway I cast out the controller.....it hits the larger mirror square on the head and they all take off never to return again!

Yes, they can be a bit finicky back there can't they? What about your gear and set ups, what do you use regarding rods and reels etc?

As far as gear goes I've 2 sets of rods, an all around set that are 12ft 3lb tc Shimano Antares and a long range set of 13ft Nick Buss Parallel Butt Rods. For the distance work I use the Shimano Big Baitrunner Long Cast reels and the Shimano 6010 Baitrunners for my regular fishing. I use the Fox RX alarms with the Euro swingers and an X pod plus.

Those Nick Buss rods are awesome aren't they! I have a set myself for distance work and cannot speak highly enough of them.... the guy is a true craftsman. What other goals do you have Al? I know that we discussed you wanting to go back to Romania for another trip, but are there any other waters that you are planning on visiting?

Well I'd really like to get a 50+ mirror and 60+ common from the US. They are definitely out there! But I think since I've been serious about carp fishing my goal has been to get one of the original mirrors from Cassien. I think I'll have to start on that one soon!

What are your thoughts on the current American Carp Scene? Obviously not as large yet as Europe but it seems to be growing quite rapidly doesn't it? Do you think that the attitude towards the carp as a sport fish here in the USA is changing?

Well there are a few people that have fueled the

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*



*A 52 lb 8 oz common from Town Lake in November 2001*

carp-fishing scene in America in my opinion. Dave Moore of the American Carp Society who's vision and drive to make carp an acceptable game fish in America has been great. Of Course there's the CAG who unite most of the more passionate carp anglers in the USA and do a tremendous job of supporting carp fishing over here, and also Paul Pezulla from Wacker Baits who deserves a huge 'Thank You' from me personally. He has been one of the people responsible for many of my successes as an angler. I

think that now with the formation of The American Carp Society and the instructional DVD's, National competitions and promotions that will be taking place it's sure to grow by leaps and bounds in the coming years.

But even with all this the Carp and the Carp Angler are still looked upon as the outcasts in America. Maybe it's because we as Carp Anglers tend to be a bit extreme, but our ways are becoming more respected by other anglers all the time. The Competitions will definitely help.

*What about untapped waters in the USA Al, what are your thoughts there?*

There are literally thousands and thousands of waters in America have never been fished for carp. That leaves millions of carp that have never seen a grain of maize, a tiger-nut, or a boilie. I've fished several all around the country with huge carp, sometimes successfully and other times not. The lakes and rivers here that have large numbers of big fish have so much natural food. At times it can be very frustrating seeing massive carp rolling so close to your baits... never to get a take! But if you have the time, patience and know how, I think there is a realistic possibility of a 60 or 70lb Carp from the USA.



*Thanks Al. I must say that it's been a pleasure fishing with you over the last few days, we have caught some great fish and I thoroughly enjoyed it mate, thanks again!*

*A beautiful St. Lawrence 50!*

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