

decision to provide a sustainable habitat for fish takes us out of the courtroom and into water bureaucracy—a whole new level for trout protection. It means the water bureaucracy is in the stream-protection business, right where it ought to be." CalTrout has been fighting WRID since it drained the Bridgeport Reservoir (despite warnings from both CalTrout and the state) more than two years ago, which killed lots of fish.

## QUICK, JEAN-CLAUDE—THE CORTLAND!

ANGLER Chuck Krause's hike went sour when he found himself on a narrow ledge with no place to go but straight down—his remote mountain lake destination smiling invitingly in the distance.

Krause was on Keller Mountain, in Colorado's Gore Range. At a fork in the trail, he'd chosen a path that put him on the wrong side of the mountain, opposite the lake. So to get his bearings he'd scrambled to the top, then bushwhacked down steep rock slopes—till he hit that ledge. The next step was a 40-foot drop to another outcrop, and he couldn't go back. "One mistake would have meant a fall of a half a mile or more, and that was a gamble I wasn't willing to take."

The problem: get to the ledge below. The materials: a rod, a fly line and a belt. The solution: Chuck wedged his looped belt and a section of the rod into a handy crevice overhead. Then he made a rope of sorts by winding together his Cortland 444 line and the backing, and tied it to the belt. With a couple of deep breaths, he started his descent, keeping a foot or knee on the cliff as much as possible. Miraculously, the makeshift lifeline held Chuck—all 190 pounds—until he could jump to the ledge. Thanking the force that protects drunks, toddlers and fly fishermen, he gave the rope a tug to dislodge it (anglers are not only anti-litter, they like to use a fly line forever), only to have it snap. Krause continued on to his camp below.

Kids, don't try this at home with your own fly lines.

8 March 1991

## BOOK 'EM

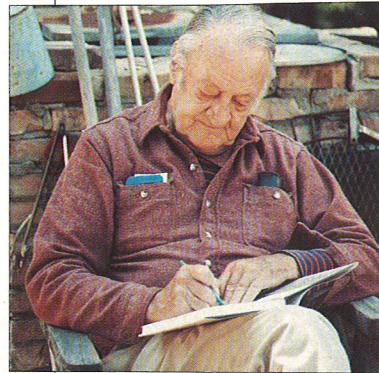
THE John D. Voelker Foundation provides legal aid and scholarships for the disadvantaged by means of (among other things) out-of-print outdoor books. Their latest fundraiser is a re-issue of *Laughing Whitefish*, limited to 300 copies signed by author Robert Traver—aka John D. Voelker, legal eagle and all-around classic guy. To land a *Laughing Whitefish* takes a donation of \$150, but know that charter members have first dibs on this and other titles to follow in the Traver series. The foundation is at Box 15222, Lansing, MI 48901. 517-482-4488.

• From the American Museum of Fly Fishing comes *A Treasury of Reels*, a guide to the 750-plus reels in the museum's superb collection. Written by Jim Brown (author of *Fishing Reel Patents in the United States, 1838-1940*) the book is limited to 500 signed and numbered copies and costs \$50. Box 42, Manchester, VT 05254. 802-362-3300.

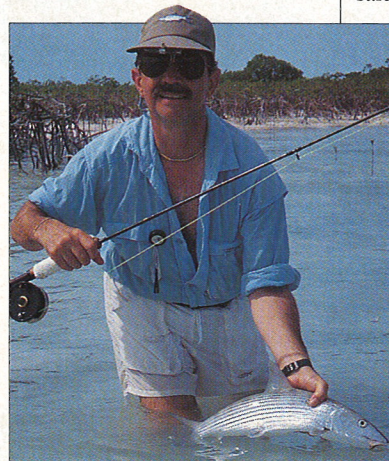
## DO THE LIMBA

WHEN Lee Hartman, of Soviet Sports Connections, visited Siberia he had no ideas of finding a new kind of lenok, the Asian troutoid. Hartman's *limba*—local name for lenok—came from the Kiundiudey River, but fellow anglers immediately pronounced it nothing like the limba they'd caught before. So they sent the specimen to the US for a post-mortem. Which indicated, according to Dr. Robert Behnke, head of CSU's Dept. of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, that Hartman's sharp-snouted lenok (*limba*) and the blunt-snouted lenok (the other guys' *limba*) are separate species within the genus *Brachymystax*.

Add in the fact that other fishermen have seen Siberian fish with entirely different characteristics that have also been tabbed "limba," and



Hizzoner signing for charity.



Some kind of classroom.



Is it a limba, or a lenok?

the debate is only warming up. Behnke will travel to Siberia himself this year in hopes of taking all these various limba and lenok out of limbo.

## THE FLY BIZ

Orvis now has 13 company-owned stores. The latest is at 84 State Street, in the heart of Boston's financial district. At the gala opening, manager David Thompson reported, "On the first normal day I had about a dozen sportsmen stop in to make sure we were for real. Then they all said, 'My wife is going to kill me,' and grinned and walked out."

• For the New Year, did you resolve to become a saltwater fly fisherman? Perhaps you need a week at the new **Caucci-Nastasi Flyfishing School** in Central America. This how-to bonefish blowout will take place in Belize, at Turneffe Island Lodge, with Angler Adventures handling all travel arrangements with their usual efficacy. The Turneffe session takes 12, with or without saltwater experience. Other '91 schools will be held in Montana, Exuma and on the Delaware River. Caucci-Nastasi Flyfishing School, Inc., RD #1, Box 102, Tannersville, PA 18372. 717-629-2962.

• Jack Dennis, Gary LaFontaine and Mike Lawson, dba the **Traveling Fly Fishermen**, will be on the road again for the 1991 season. Their weekend-long program includes fly-tying demonstrations, casting and saltwater techniques. The threesome is sponsored by local angling shops and clubs; destinations for 1991 include New York, Tucson, Spokane and Los Angeles. Call 800-522-5755 for more specifics and dates.

## STREAM DREAMS

LOTS of artists tithe some of their sales to environmental action. Sculptor Powell Swanser, however, says he's chipping in 51%. And he not only gave one

of his super-realistic fish to the White House, he also started—along with his wife, Tazun, and angler-author-entomologist Gary LaFontaine—something called the World Resource Alliance to give the money to.

Swanser, who is nothing if not brash and talented, has become mildly famous since #1 of *Sometimes God Paints the Sky with Rainbows* was presented to George Bush to "stimulate an awareness of some of our trout streams' problems and raise the consciousness of people who make decisions in Washington." Limited to a run of 50, the \$6,000 rainbow carved in maple and then brilliantly painted is a replica of a 23-incher his wife caught near their home in Montana; \$3,060 from each sale goes to the World Resource Alliance.

Swanser told *FR&R*, "When some of the larger fly-fishing organizations learned that I had earmarked 51% of all the Presidential sales for ecology, they had all kinds of ideas for the money, but none of these plans sounded like what I thought was needed." His WRA was incorporated to save threatened lands; it embraces the entire biosphere of a watershed—from vertebrates to invertebrates, fish to waterfowl.

Keeping his fish on film only, Swanser blends steel, acrylic, plastic and wood to get an eerily lifelike effect. He has a couple of other limited editions too, such as *Emperor of the North*, an eye-popping replica of a 44-lb king salmon he caught in Alaska; it costs \$50,000 and is in *The Robb Report's* annual "World's Ultimate and Most Exotic Gifts" section. Swanser will also custom-build a sculpture for you; reach him at Incredible Sculptures, Box 3322, Missoula, MT 59806.

## TA-DA!

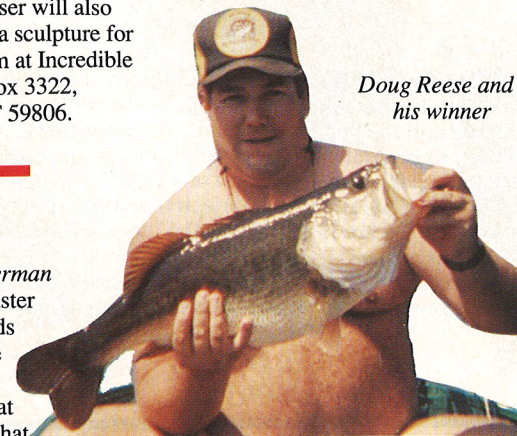
THE *In-Fisherman* Magazine Master Angler Awards for 1989 have been announced. What matters isn't that



Powell Swanser dreams away...



L to R: Eero Petterson, Gary Loomis, Nikolai Voloskinov and Gary Pljuhin.



Doug Reese and his winner

they're a year late, it's that the largemouth-bass honor went to a fly flinger; evidently not all their readers are people of the rubber worm. The contest is simply for the biggest fish, regardless of tackle. The top bass weighed a shade under 14 lbs. It was taken by Doug Reese of Spring Hill, Florida, on an orange-and-black Dahlberg Diver—tied by Larry Dahlberg himself, who happens to be an *IF* staffer. After taping and photos, Reese released his possible IGFA-record (4-lb-tippet) bass. "I sincerely believe a bass of this size and awesome beauty is much more valuable alive than hanging on the wall," declared Reese. The good guys always win in the end.

## LOOMIS SIGNS SOVIET ACCORD

NY, December 12—Rod maker and now travel entrepreneur Gary Loomis hosted lunch here

today for a delegation of Soviet officials and Atlantic Salmon Federation officers. The purpose of the Soviets' visit, as one put it, was to secure an economic future for their people by expanding the utilization of their Atlantic salmon stock through sportfishing. Translated, that meant signing a contract awarding Gary Loomis Outdoor Adventures exclusive sportfishing rights for five years to five rivers on the Kola Peninsula, including the now-famous Ponoy and its tributaries. The agreement also allows Loomis to explore other rivers. A separate contract with Aeroflot, the Soviet airline,

provides the Ponoy River camp (managed by Tim Rajeff, of San Francisco) with daily helicopter service.

The signing capped almost two years of searching and talking, and it is historic because of the range of government and people's groups involved. "For the first time, we feel such an agreement has been done right, where all the people affected were in place," said one Russian.

Frontiers, Inc., the travel company, hosted the group for three days of final negotiations at their base in Pennsylvania, prior to the "summit."

The principals of Gary Loomis Outdoor Adventures are Loomis and Eero Petterson, a sporting-travel specialist from Helsinki, Finland, with extensive experience in the USSR. The signers for the Soviet team were Nikolai Voloshinov, Vice-Chairman of the Murmansk Regional Council of People's Deputies, and Sergei Pljuhin, Director General of the Kola Association.

Nine other Soviets took part; those who are elected officials had held hearings within their jurisdictions to ensure that American sportsmen would be welcome.

The ASF officers were President David Clark, V-P John Anderson, and directors Bill Brewster and Royal Victor. The ASF has offered to consult

with the Kola Fisheries Department in their efforts to preserve one of the last wild salmon regions of Europe.

By agreement, the Ponoy camp will encourage catch-and-release for its salmon. There will be no limits on numbers of salmon released and each client may kill up to one fish per week.

The Ponoy, like most Kola salmon rivers, does have a commercial fishing net at its mouth; under this agreement, netting will be immediately reduced and ultimately eliminated, and fishery officers with enforcement powers will be stationed on the river. —Bill Hunter