

Fish Tales

by Mike Brower

And Now For Something Completely Different.....

Little Known Valentines Day Trivia

February 14, 270 AD - Claudius the Cruel beheaded the priest Valentine because he forgot to get flowers for his wife Cruellia Cruel.

King Henry VIII declared February 14, 1537, an official holiday, "Valentines Day." Now we know why there wasn't a King Henry IX.

February 14, 1537 - the first recorded "You don't love me" after Sir Reginald Dumass forgot Valentines Day.

February 14, 1872 - I. R. Dumass (relative of Sir Reginald) was shot dead in the streets of Dodge City after challenging a man to a gunfight not realizing that his wife had removed the bullets from his gun while cleaning it earlier in the day as a Valentine's Day present.

December 12, 1995 - U.S. House Member James "Bubba" Newhouse proposed a bill: The 1995 American Economic Stimulus to Nowhere Bill declaring the 14th of each month Valentine's Day after the UFA (United Florists of America) donated \$20,000.00 to his re-election campaign.

In an attempt to gather support for their respective campaigns from the Florist Workers Union (a branch of the United Steelworkers of America), both Republican and Democratic candidates for president have pledged to bring back and pass the Newhouse bill without amendments.

Whether we as husbands know it or not, our wives have us on double secret probation until Valentine's Day.

Knock-off or Knockout?

I just don't understand people sometimes. Take the new Basstrix paddle tube for example: a guy makes a bait that suddenly becomes a must have hit and instead of increasing production to take advantage of the kajillion bucks that will come his way, he stays with his 200 baits per day. If I were



that lucky, I would have production running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, knowing all the while that the pirates will be coming with knock-offs at any time. Well, that time is here. At this writing there are 8 knockoffs that I know of, a couple are just as good or better. Here are some to watch out for:

Silly Rabbit—A little on the large side for me, but would be a good bait for Millwood or Lake Fork good action but, colors are few.

Bass Magic—most likely the best knock-off yet, nice size, good action and some good colors.

Rainbow worms—tremendous action, reasonable color selection of only the basics.

Fishbelly—The Kick-S-Shad in the 3" size is the best of this company but, it's more of a drop-shot bait with a super spectacular color selection -- check out the Japanese colors.

And the best part of all....

I just received word that the BFL All American, that Keith Jones and I qualified for this past fall, has been moved from its original location of Hartford, Connecticut. It will now take place at.....LAKE HAMILTON! Hot Springs, Arkansas, here we come! Woo hoo!



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