

Announcing Breakthrough Magazine's Renewed Emphasis for Fish Artists

Breakthrough Magazine's slogan for over three decades has been *The Magazine Devoted to the Serious Wildlife Artist*. While *Breakthrough* is primarily a taxidermy magazine it has had a high level of interest on fish carving for a long time as well as other forms of wildlife art. Larry Blomquist, owner and publisher of Breakthrough, also owns and is the driving force behind the World Taxidermy and Fish Carving Championships. Larry's passion for fish, fishing and all types of fish art including fish carving is very evident if you have ever checked out an issue of Breakthrough and that commitment is also reflected by his sponsorship of the World Fish Carving Championships and being both a member of the Nation Fish Carvers Guild and the IWCA.

As a fish taxidermist and fish carver, I have been a beneficiary of the National Fish Carvers Guild, *Breakthrough Magazine* and the World Fish Carving Championships and am very grateful that these entities are in existence. Having known Larry for over 20 years, I know he shares the NFCG's great commitment to seeing that the art of fish carving grows and even flourishes. Larry wanted to step up his involvement, and after many conversations, I was retained as *Breakthrough's* first field editor for fish taxidermy and carving. Beginning in 2010, part of my role with the magazine is to see that the fish related arts are represented well in each issue and to make sure that carvers and taxidermists alike have a consistent source for stimulating and educational information. Having written articles for *Breakthrough* off and on since 1994, I am pleased and honored to take on this exiting role. I will still be carving and teaching workshops out of my same studio here in Billings, Montana and incidentally, I just scheduled some group fish carving and painting workshops for this winter. (www.carvingclasses.com) If you would have questions or any input for the magazine feel free to let me know. (406) 656-9151 or email: clark@clarkschreibeis.com .

If you are not already a subscriber to *Breakthrough* I invite you to try out a subscription to this high quality, quarterly magazine. For fish carving and related topics of interest there is really no other publication like it and you can be assured that you will glean lots of information and be inspired by the excellent photography of the greatest fish carvings in the world. I'm positive there is no other source for the latest, cutting-edge and innovative information for fish carvers than *Breakthrough Magazine*. At \$32 per year it is a definite bargain.

Here is just a sampling of fish and wood related articles in the last 2 issues beginning in the Spring 2010 issue:

- Beginning with a cover photo of new World Champion Josh Guge's fantastic coral reef carving there is a gallery of all the winning fish carvings at the 2009 World Championships including inspiring full page, color photos of carvings by Josh Guge, Bob Berry, Ted Richmond and Larry Goldman.
- There is an in-depth study of brown trout written by myself covering everything from history, environment, biology and anatomy to color descriptions of the different forms. Excellent reference is also supplied along with my own personal musings about my admirations of browns.
- A brown trout paint schedule written by me
- An excellent article by World Champion fish taxidermist, Mike Kirkhart, on the handling and preparation involved to get an enormous 16 foot Black Marlin ready

to paint along with the type of painting information you just can't get anywhere else.

- In every issue there is a photo reference section of all types of wildlife and in this particular issue it has both brown trout and Atlantic salmon reference.

In the Summer 2010 issue:

- Photos of more ribbon winners from the World Fish Carving Championships
- Some of the best reference photos of spawning male brook trout that I have ever seen by Steve Stoner.
- A fish carving article written and photographed by me on different ways to "burn" scales on a wooden fish and other scale texturing methods.
- An official announcement to fish carvers by World Champion Josh Guge concerning the new youth division at the World Championships.
- An excellent paint schedule by multiple World Champion fish taxidermist Jeff Mourning on Brook Trout

In addition to the articles and features that you can expect in each issue such as excellent reference photos there are classified ads, the *Breakthrough Library* including a whole page of fish carving books and a quarterly feature by NFCG member Larry Goldman called *I WOOD Like to Know*. Also, it needs to be said that many of the fish taxidermy articles have great cross-over appeal to the fish carvers because there are so many similarities. Even though carvers are using wood for their medium and fish taxidermists are using foam, skins, fiberglass, epoxies, etc., most information has a direct correlation with such things as painting, airbrushing, anatomy, composition and design. In this last issue there was an article about making fiberglass molds from a clay sculpture and while that was probably intended for the taxidermists, I know that it will be a great benefit to me in my future molding projects.

I know Larry would like nothing more than to further broaden out his appeal to fish carvers but we as fish carvers must reciprocate by simply subscribing and supporting this excellent venue and meeting place for the fish carving community. It's kind of a "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" situation. It goes both ways. 1(800) 783-7266 or www.BreakthroughMagazine.com

On behalf of Larry Blomquist, Breakthrough Magazine and myself, I would like to say thank you to the National Fish Carvers Guild's for its dedication and tireless service to the fish carving community. Your enthusiastic support of the World Fish Carving Championships and the art of fish carving itself is an inspiration and benefit to us all.

Have a great autumn season and tight lines, Clark Schreibeis

PS Hope to see you at the World Show which is May 3-7, 2011.