① Story

Cordele Ga.
5/26/67

Deer Barbara,

Fish stories which are true
your Uncle Ben, Kelons and I were
fishing in a boat in Uncle Ben Bond.
we were having some luck on the bass
and all of a sudden your uncle Kelons
had a strike which developed some hard
run and pulls. I happen to have my
movie Camera and took pictures of
the water boils. when he was able
to get the fish in close enough
which we saw it was two fish on the
same line and I got the picture
of the landing the fish
I got a thrill showing this picture
to our friends.

Homer Whelchel
1960

Barbara - you can write these events
and put them in the proper form and if to long
you can cut out lots of words.
This is the fishing events that come to
mind right know.

Granddaddy, H.

(2nd) Story

It was our custom to make a trip down from Chattanooga Tenn to Cordele out on Lake Blackshear at Cedar Creek for the annual whitchel reunion.

I had learned the art of fly fishing and I had brought my fly rod along. Ben & Kilons and I were talking about fishing so I said I like fly fishing and they had not seen any one fish that way. They wanted me to demonstrate the casting skill. I rig up my rod and placed a large bass white popping bug on a seven foot leader. we got in the boat and got out in the open water and I began to let out line and when I had out about forty or fifty feet I layed down the fly and I let it stay still for a few seconds and then I Twitched the end of the rod and the fly moved - at that time a great splash erupted and my reflexes were good so I got the hook. I knew I had to play the fish so that he would not break my line so I let him have line then I would take up line. This went on which seem like hours and my Bros. was giving encouragement not to loose

that fish. The fish jumped trying to throw out the fly but I kept a tight line and hung on.. we did not put a dip net in the boat so I knew I had to worry the fish down so we could dip him up with our hands. After he stopped the runs I instructed Ben to dip him in the boat as I lead him by the side of the boat. When I got him near enough where we could see him in the water he looked like he was three feet long but as he come closer we noticed there was a bass about the same size following this one through the water. The second fish disappeared when we started to land this fish. I brought the fish along side of the boat and Ben dipped him in the boat with his hands.

This was a perfic demonstration of fly fishing and from then on fly fishing became very popular on Lake Blackshear Lake.

Homer Whelchel

P.S. This fish weighed over 3 lbs.

(3rd) Story

On another trip to Cedar Creek from Chattanooga your uncle Kelous from Birmingham was here. we decided to put out a trot line up Cedar Creek; which we did and baited it with small minows.

The next morning we went up to run the line and when we felt of the line it begin to pull real hard so we knew we had something big on the line, as we got closer the line was tangled with a log we could see the bass floundering in the water and we were so scared that he would get off. but we finally got the line loose from the log. we did not have a landing net so we had to catch him in the mouth and pull him in the boat. There were some excitements trying to land this 10 lb. bass.

I carried this fish to Chattanooga and had it mounted and it is over the mantle in the Cabin on Cedar Creek.

Homer Whitehead