

decoy will hang in the water like a real fish would."

The decoy is perhaps four and a-half inches long.

"These," Nick says, spreading an array of several decoys, "are made by the fishingest people I ever did see!"

They're made by various members of the Veihl family, mostly of the Onaway area. A father, five sons, a grandson and a first cousin all carve. Their individual styles are distinctive, and Nick points out the differences.

Nearby, in a large fish tank, a needle-nose gar pike and a northern pike fish lazily as bubbles float upward. The bubbling aerator adds a soothing rhythm to the room as two cats snooze and two dogs nose a visitor's hand, looking for attention.

The rows of decoys on the shelves are a cross section of time, linking native hunters of yesterday to ice fishermen of today. They might be considered one of the first functional art forms, as each was carved for one's individual use and to provide food for the family. The shapes, forms, and patterns have been passed from father to son throughout the years.

These days, a newsletter with Nick as editor, links decoy carvers and collectors. The American Fish Decoy Association was formed last year and the newsletter is entering its second year of production. The group held a

show and sale at Midland last autumn in conjunction with an exhibition *Beneath the Ice: The Art of the Fish Decoy* which was shown at the Midland Center for the Arts. That exhibition is currently at the Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 Wells St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (414-278-2720). It runs through March 18.

The American Fish Decoy Association plans two shows in 1991. The first, April 20-21, will be held at the Ramada Heritage Center in Southgate and the second, Oct. 5-6, will be held at the Airport Hilton in Grand Rapids.

For more information on either, to become a member of the AFDA, or to just talk about fishing or decoys, contact Dominick Torello III at Nick's Wood Shop, 134 Michigan Ave., Au Gres MI 48703. Telephone 517-876-7075.

Dorothy Webster, a former newspaper and magazine publisher, is an artist/photographer living in Northern Michigan. She frequents out of way spots researching lighthouses and old general stores to paint and photograph. Her Native American heritage adds another dimension to her interest.

Ice fishing: The great escape

January in Michigan ushers in the beginning of another ice fishing season to an estimated 280,000 handy and adventurous anglers. Imagine being able to get away--far, far away--from everyday pressures, jangling telephones, hectic meetings, and office routine.

Sound good to you? Believe it! Ice anglers are able to experience such great escapes on a regular basis.

Whether seeking out panfish such as bluegills or yellow perch, northern pike or walleye, ice fishing is

Michigan angling adventure at its best. Although fully three-quarters of the 2 million-plus ice fishing days Michigan anglers expend each year are spent on the state's inland waters, excellent angling is also available on the shores of frozen Great Lakes' bays and inlets rimming Michigan's peninsula.

Ice fishing's a particularly great way to get outdoors and enjoy the cold-weather months. Best of all perhaps, the ice angling devotee need not invest large sums of money in order to catch fish and have fun.

Here's a short list of this winter's Michigan ice fishing events:

--Jan. 25-27, Coloma and Watervliet, Winterfest, call 616-468-3191.

--Jan. 25-27, Hillsdale, Tip-Up Fishing Festival, 517-439-1304.

--Jan. 26-27, Houghton Lake, Tip-Up Town USA, 800-292-9071.

--Jan. 26-Feb. 16, Saginaw, Shiver on the River, 517-776-9701.

--Feb. 1-3, East Tawas, Perchville USA, 517-362-8643.

--Feb. 4-17, Pentwater,



FAR, FAR AWAY— Ice anglers on Muskegon Bay in the Upper Peninsula enjoy the peace and quiet of the frozen waters in Michigan's northernmost waters.

Ice Fishing Contest, 616-509-2150.

--Feb. 17-18, Baraga, Festival on Ice, 906-524-7444.

--Feb. 26-March 4, Port Austin, Winter Carnival, 517-738-7600.

--March 9, Marquette, Ice-Fishing Jamboree, 906-842-4535.

Write the Michigan DNR's Fisheries Division at Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909 to obtain a copy of a Michigan Ice Fishing Handbook full of helpful hints. It's free for the asking.

Super Decoy
Balloon Ride Gift Certificates

"You stay warm and comfortable while enjoying the winter season with a heavenly view of Michigan's Crystal White Beauty."

Balloon Corporation Of America
2044 Thompson Rd., Fenton, MI 48130
(313) 629-3676

"Your West Coast Connection" (313) 750-8188

MICHIGAN NEXT
Surf Shop

SAVE 10-50%

Gotcha Oakley Spot Sport Quiksilver

Exit 84, US 23
3235 Thompson Rd.
Fenton, Michigan

SKI BRIGHTON

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____
ZIP _____

GREAT LAKES GETAWAY O & E PAPERS

GOOD FOR \$2 OFF LIFT TICKET

Valid Monday through Friday Days 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. Valid Sunday through Thursday Nights 6 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.

24 Hr. Snow/Events: (313) 227-1451 4141 Bauer Road
Office/Information: (313) 229-9581 Brighton, Michigan 48116
At I-96, Exit 145

WATER TOWER
Antiques Mall

310 Broad St.
Holly, Michigan
(Across From Watertower)

Fine Antiques

60 Dealers

Wide variety of...

- Glassware
- Furniture
- Advertising
- Toys
- Jewelry
- Books

ANNUAL FEBRUARY SALE
Mall Wide Savings
Up To 30%

Open 7 Days

For More Information
Call 634-3500

Conveniently located between
US-23 & I-75

pine knob
SKI RESORT

- Modern Lodge
- Ski Shop
- Cafeteria
- Lounge
- Restaurant
- Ski Rental
- Night Skiing
- Ski School

- 14 Slopes
- 300' Vertical
- 35% Easiest
- 35% More Difficult
- 30% Most Difficult
- 3 Triple Chairs, 2 Doubles
- 4 Rope Tows
- No Price Increase

PINE KNOB
7777 Pine Knob Road
Clarkston, Mich. 48016
(313) 625-0880

Located North of
Rumley 1 Mile East
of I-75 on Saginaw Road.