

Fishing

By



"The Crappie Catcher"

Belize, British Honduras
December 31, 1967

Vic Barothy is a handsome Hemingway type man, with smiling blue eyes set in a youthful sixtyish weather beaten face partially framed with reddish-gray bears. His ruggedness makes him look much bigger than he is.

He parlayed a childhood love for fishing, with a mature faith in men who love to fish, into a modest fortune and a life bursting with rich memories. Vic is the warmest, most friendly human that anyone ever had the pleasure of meeting. His lovely wife, Betty, is his perfect mate. The two of them are just too much. They devour you with their sincere friendliness.

Vic was born into an affluent Illinois family. He ran away from home at 14 and landed in New Orleans where he signed on as a merchant seaman. A year later, he was pushing a fishing skiff, and guiding fishing parties in wilderness waters around Grand Rapids, Michigan. Vic and his brother operated successful fishing camps in Michigan for many years. Wanderlust, and love of fishing adventures, took Vic into the Everglades and around the Florida Keys in the early 1920's. For years he would return to Michigan every summer and go back to Florida in Winter.

VIC MOVED on to the Florida Keys in 1945 where camp numbers two and three and world fame as a fishing guide developed. Barothy's fame and name spread around the world during a round two dozens of years guiding sports fishermen in Florida waters. The Florida real estate boom destroyed the virgin atmosphere and drove Vic to Cuba in 1949 where he operated his most famous camp "The Isle of Pines", for nearly a dozen years. Castro ran him out of Cuba along with the rest of the American businessmen in 1960.

Cuba's loss was Belize's great gain when this famed fishing gypsy set up the "Barothy Caribbean Lodge Limited", 8 miles up the Belize River from Belize City, British Honduras. Vic carved out a fishing paradise from the intensely dense jungle, and erected his camp on the other side of the river from the road. The latter was a bit of wisdom gained from previous camp site experience.

The apparent inconvenience of being located on the 'wrong' side of the river is compensated many fold by the convenience of privacy and resulting tranquility. A river width removed from the road and from traffic, provides the Barothy Lodge with a genuine atmosphere of virgin paradise which would not have been possible on the traffic bank of the Belize River. Vic's camp is safely removed from prying eyes and gabby mouths. It is the ultimate dream of the sports fisherman seeking virgin territory to explore.

THE BAROTHY way of guiding fishing parties is new to this writer. Vic has three house boats, each of which accommodates four persons, top cabin. The boats carry all necessary supplies and provisions for exciting 3-day fishing excursions. The boats are staffed with trained personnel which guide you safely, but surely to what ever kind of fishing you would desire. Food and service aboard are first class.

Houseboat trips are for a minimum of three days. The rates are not cheap, but every penny spent with Vic Barothy returns handsome dividends in fishing thrills, and exciting new adventure. For a party of four, the tab is \$47 per person, per day. The price is all-inclusive for boat, tackle, food, and service. Each houseboat carries two fishing skiffs which permit you to explore the narrow jungle streams, and to get in close to the river banks for light tackle casting. The skiffs are also used at sea when fishing the flats and rocky waters around the Great Barrier Reef.

A 3-day houseboat trip with Vic Barothy provides a lifetime of fantastic fishing mem-

Caribbean Lodge Of Vic Barothy (See Crappie Catcher)



VIC BAROTHY on steps of his famed fishing camp's Headquarters building.



Barothy landing dock with several skiffs for river fishing.



Vic Barothy Lodge as seen from across the Belize River.



MONKEY in tree near Barothy Lodge is pictured at the split second it spotted camera and readied to "take off".



RIVER BANK near Barothy Lodge.

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ories. Vic will crowd more different kinds of new fishing adventure into 3 days than the average fisherman has known in a lifetime, or has dared to dream.

The Barothy Lodge is the focal point for hunting paradise as well as for fishing fantasy. The neighboring jungle abounds with game. Quail are large as well as plentiful. The Quail along with ducks and wild turkey will satiate the appetite of the most discriminatory scatter-gun hunter. The big game hunter can fulfill his fondest dreams with his choice of jaguar, puma, el tigre, deer, and wild boar.

Write Barothy Caribbean Lodge, P.O. Box 459, Belize, British Honduras, for reservations. Betty Barothy will send you all the necessary information. She is a doll.

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