

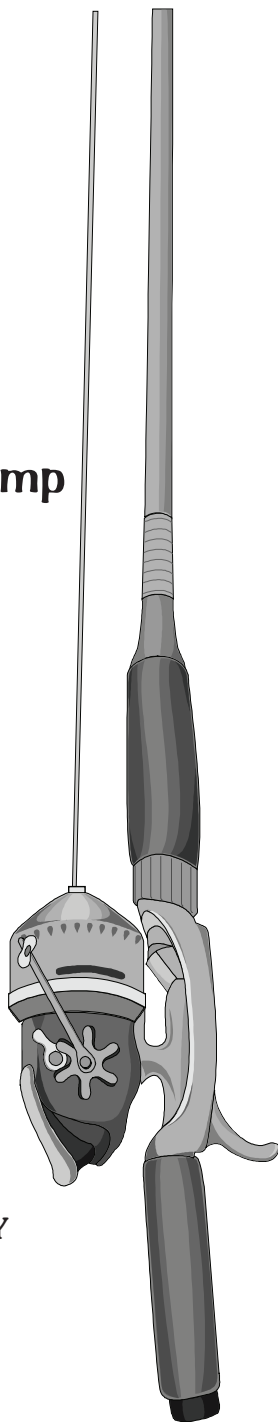
**The Chefs of
RodnReel.com**



The Chefs of RodnReel.com

A Fishing and Hunting Camp Cookbook

By Mike Lane and
Chefs of RodnReel



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GRETNA 2008

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About the Cover

Local New Orleans artist Jared Osterhold created the artwork for the cover. He is a brilliant artist who can draw, paint, sculpt, and carve. He utilizes all media, including oils, acrylics, and watercolors. He brings his artwork to life on paper, canvas, or just about anything. To put it simply, he is amazing.

The scene depicted on the cover is a part of a larger illustration named *The Crawfish Boil*. This illustration was created on a graphics tablet. It was fascinating to watch as the computer recorded the strokes of the artist's stylus. It took Jared 2½ weeks to create this “Cajun-flavored” masterpiece.

There is a story behind the characters in the artwork. They all have names and, as with RodnReel, they are a family. They live deep in the swamps of Louisiana and only a few people know their actual location. The human figures are gnomes. They were true Cajuns, working and living in the bountiful coastal areas and the swamps of Louisiana. A spell was cast on these Cajuns, reducing their size to the height of the fish and animals they know so well, thus becoming gnomes! Once they were affected by the spell they knew they had to go into hiding or be forever hounded by the paparazzi.

Jared's works can be seen and purchased at store.RodnReel.com.

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Introduction

This cookbook is different from most. The chefs who contributed to this book are active sportsmen and women. They fish and hunt and have developed their cooking skills to allow them to prepare the fresh fish and wild game they bring home. Many enjoy days and nights in their camps with family and close friends, where it is like a competition to serve the best meal. You live or die by your peer rating. Reputations are built on results. After a long and fun day of fishing or hunting, everyone is looking forward to that evening meal. There is no TV or radio and in some cases no heat or A/C. The evening meal is the entertainment, along with stories of yesteryear or a recap of how that big trout managed to throw the hook just as the net was going under her.

Many of these sportsmen don't know how to cook many dishes but they spend years "working on" their version of jambalaya, gumbo, roasted wild ducks, and rabbits. As a result, you are the beneficiary of years of research and testing by critical and demanding eaters.

This cookbook has another advantage: most recipes are not complex. Not many camps have food processors, duck presses, or bread machines. Seasonings are chopped by hand, and ingredients are limited, but the results are great.

RodnReel.com started in the summer of 1995 and is a community of likeminded people with a passion for fishing, hunting, diving, camping, and other outdoor activities. Over 200,000 people visit the RodnReel Web site every month. Some visit a few times a month, some a few times a week, and many a few times a day. Lifelong friendships have been formed by the visitors of this Web site. Charities have been formed to benefit sick, handicapped, and disadvantaged children. RodnReel is truly a large family of great people.



It only seemed natural for us to get together and compile some of our favorite recipes. Many recipes have been passed down for generations. Some were developed by having to cook a meal with only a few available ingredients in some very remote locations.

The Chefs of RodnReel hope that you enjoy the recipes we offer and, also, the photographs throughout the book. All photographs have appeared on RodnReel.com over the years. I don't think a professional photographer took a single photo. The beauty of our world shows because the photographer is chronicling scenes from his favorite part of the world in the fruitful and rewarding outdoors.

Please make these recipes your own. Cook for your family and friends. Improvise and improve along the way. You, too, can become a Chef of RodnReel. All it takes is one or more really good recipes, the willingness to share, and Internet access. Just go to www.RodnReel.com and click on the Chefs link on the home page. See you in the next collection!

Mike Lane
Publisher
RodnReel.com

Contributors

Al Domesick	Alison Lane
Barnacle Bill	Bill Healy
Bill McCrary	Bill Miller
Bill Neff	Billy Good
Blake Champion	Bruce Hoffman
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Gary Falgout	Gayle Rhode
Gene Duhé	Geoffrey J. Rhode
Gerald Roberts	Gerold Flotte
Glen Chatelain	(Robert Couch, Chef)
Glenda Britton	GlennB
Grey Duck	Jeff Bruhl
Jeffrey L. Danby	Jason Branch aka
Jim Henry	Chocolate Head
Joe Gallo	Joe Williams
John Cockrell	John Engert
John Stephens	Kenny & Sheila Vincent



Lee and Brenda Ferraro	Leon J. Touzet III
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Lyle Johnson	Max Mayeaux
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Robert Lamb and son	Robert Taylor
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Ron Messa	Roy Stubenrauch
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