

Illinois Spoonpluggers

Newsletter

Dedicated to the teachings of E.L. "Buck" Perry
The Father of Structure Fishing

December, 2012

MEETING NOTES - The last meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers was held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at the Elk Grove Village Public Library. The meeting was led by Brett Christiansen with 16 members in attendance. The next meeting will be the annual Holiday Party at Giordano's Pizzeria-Westchester on Thursday, December 13. The December business meeting is canceled. See below for details.

Club meetings are held at the Elk Grove Public Library (resuming in January, 2013) on the second Thursday of the month starting at 7:15 PM.

CLUB MISSION/VISION ADOPTED - At the November meeting, the Illinois Spoonpluggers Club adopted by unanimous vote a document setting forth guiding principles for our club. These include:

Mission-To assist members in the comprehension of the guidelines of Spoonplugging through sharing and support and to stress that following the Spoonplugging guidelines will ensure the learning process will never end.

Vision-Sustain and grow membership in the club in order to transfer Spoonplugging knowledge to future generations.

The club also adopted a set of Values and Guidelines to assure a smoothly operating club working toward its stated objectives. In doing so, we affirmed that the primary focus of meetings needs to be on fishing reports and education, with business being secondary. This document was sent out to all members for comments several weeks prior to the meeting, and the discussion continued at the meeting prior to voting. Mr. Perry would be proud!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS- THE ILLINOIS SPOONPLUGGERS WINTER SEMINAR will be on SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2013 at the Elk Grove Village Public Library.

Illinois Spoonpluggers Holiday Party
Thursday, December 13, 7:00 pm
Giordano's Pizzeria in Westchester
Spouses and guests are welcome!

Located at the corner of Cermak Road and
Mannheim Road (US 12-20-45) in Westchester

FISHING REPORTS - The weather cooled off quickly but has settled into an extended stable period before ice-up. Its time to make hay while it lasts! Fishing reports were again the focus of the club meeting. Gino Testone led a discussion of his successful trips this year to Mille Lacs, Lake of the Woods, and Lake Geneva catching big muskies (to 51"!) and numerous bass. Gino's maps were informative as he talked about overcoming some very rough conditions to arrive at the fish. He found that structures such as islands and humps proved to be especially productive, particularly on the cast. Scott Duff shared a detailed map he had drawn of the Illinois River near where the Fox River enters. He discussed the seasonal movements of the sauger/walleye which populate this area during the colder periods as they relate to the deeper holes and move toward the spawning areas. The map was added to the club library. Phil Szafranski boated 18-20 good size bass to 4lbs on blade baits from a casting position leading to the deepest water in the area. The spot was found after first catching a bass on a 400 Spoonplug trolling over a tapered 12' weedline. In the fall, expect the fish to be schooled in bunches in a small area. Phil reminds everyone-don't hesitate to anchor and go to the cast! Jim Perillo and Frank Cipria covered some deeper humps they had worked with success for the muskies. More recent trips to the Madison Chain yielded fish to 48". Bob Roels talked about Lake Geneva and working the JB lures to go deeper using the different rings. Brett Christianson continues to explore LOTS of new lakes this season. He went over the advantages of mapping without trolling, and casting around large features to check speeds and locate fish during the colder months. Brett has been working with John Bales and is using 3/8 oz. jigs and blades to catch his bass.

BUCK SEZ, *"When casting any portion of a body of water, the fisherman is often not aware of the importance of speed control, and will not vary his retrieve speed to find the most effective one."*

MEETING DATES:

2012

December 13 Holiday Party at Giordano's in Westchester, 7:00 pm

2013 - Elk Grove Village Public Library, 7:15 pm

January 10	Large Meeting Room
February 14	Conference Room
March 14	Conference Room
March 16	**Winter Seminar, Large Meeting Room 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
April 11	Large Meeting Room
May 9	Large Meeting Room
June 13	Large Meeting Room
July 11	Large Meeting Room
August 8	Conference Room





Buck Sez...

“When you discussed the seasonal movement of bass, and the most productive structures in the colder part of the season, you stated I should check the structure briefly that produced during the warmer part of the season. Why mess with these structures at all?”

In that study, we were trying to show the seasonal movement of bass, and to show the **most** potential structures from a seasonal point of view. You never put words in a fish’s mouth by saying when and where he will be. Some structures on reservoirs are so located and so shaped, they will receive some migration all year, but most will not. Conditions could be such that the **“drop-off”** of a longer, flatter, summer-producing structure, **at the channel**, could appear little different to the fish than the deeper portions of a steeper shoreline. As you increase your knowledge of a particular structure, you will soon learn if it has possibilities in the colder part of the season. Besides, structure **near the channel** doesn’t take long to “check out.”

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1) Which Structure Situation(s) can be configured in this manner so as to produce movements of the bass in both warmer and colder seasons?
- 2) Can you name some bodies of water that contain this type of feature?
Remember, in a natural lake “the channel” is represented by a deep hole or the basin of the lake.
- 3) **How would you fish this type of feature?** With a 4 foot weedline? With a 20 foot weedline?

Dates for National Network Outings:

Illinois Spoonpluggers Winter Seminar, March 16, 2013
Lunker Hunters Muskegon (MI) Outing, July 10-14, 2013
Northern Indiana "Buck Sez" Outing, August 15-17, 2013

Spoonplugger Web Sites:

Spoonpluggers of America: nsoa.info
Buck's Baits: buckperry.com
Discussion Board, links, and more: spoonplugger.net

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