

# Illinois Spoonpluggers

## Newsletter

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

**May, 2012**

The next meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers will be on Thursday, May 10, 2012, 7:15 PM at the Elk Grove Village Public Library. Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month.

**Business Summary** - The last meeting was held on February 9, 2012 with 10 members in attendance. Following Jim Duplex's rousing year-in-review video (!), an extended discussion of the successful 2012 Winter Seminar laid the groundwork for next year's event going forward.

**SHELBYVILLE CLUB OUTING:** Illinois Spoonpluggers will be holding a club outing at Lake Shelbyville on June 7, 8, 9. All Spoonpluggers are invited to attend and efforts are being made to reach out to area clubs. There will be a dinner at a date and location TBA. Bob Roels is coordinating and provided a wealth of information...please contact him with any questions. Contact Jim Taylor if interested in motel reservations/group rates; he has a couple places with boat hook ups right near the launch. Its been a few years since the club had an outing down south and it is hoped that many will be able to make it to Shelbyville next month. Reservoirs are the best teachers and we know Shelbyville is a good one!

**PRESENTATION:** Bob put together a great 18 page presentation on Lake Shelbyville with extensive slides and discussion for the meeting. While it is still evolving, this will be a very useful resource for the club. The slides were sent out to all club members and are also posted on the discussion board at spoonplugger.net. Included are maps referenced in Buck's material, satellite pictures of key features, and locations fish have been caught. Bob reminds us, "The side-view perspective is the key" to interpreting breaks and breaklines on structure. **MORE AT THIS MONTH'S MEETING!**

**Fishing Reports** - Brett Christiansen discussed fishing and fish movements during the March warm spell. As instructed in John Bale's video, he started the day when the ice went off the lake, mapped the deep holes and then spent hours casting them. Breaklines were trolled and once the water warmed the fish moved IN! Hay was made during the stable, warm weather because the initial mapping had been done; his time was spent fishing and interpreting. Brett noted the advancing of the weedline into deeper water was already evident in the clear lake being fished. These experiences will no doubt result in much learning in the future fishing under different conditions since no two seasons or fishing days are ever the same.

Mike Lynch shared his insights on some new features on Heidecke Lake. He noted an important key is paying attention to changes in bottom condition from hard to very hard.

Bass action rebounded after the April cold snap and has been quite good at times. Brett found he had to slow down but still had good numbers including a 5+ lb'er, and Bob Roels got into a bunch for the

opener in southern WI. The walleyes (mostly males) and a few stripers have been going, too, with reports coming in from Jim Duplex, Joe Zaremba, Rick Matus, Mike Lynch (Heidecke), and Scott Duff (late report from Fox Chain). Jim Shell and Mike have also paid visits to the lakes at Clinton, Shelbyville, and Braidwood where action was spotty on the days fished.



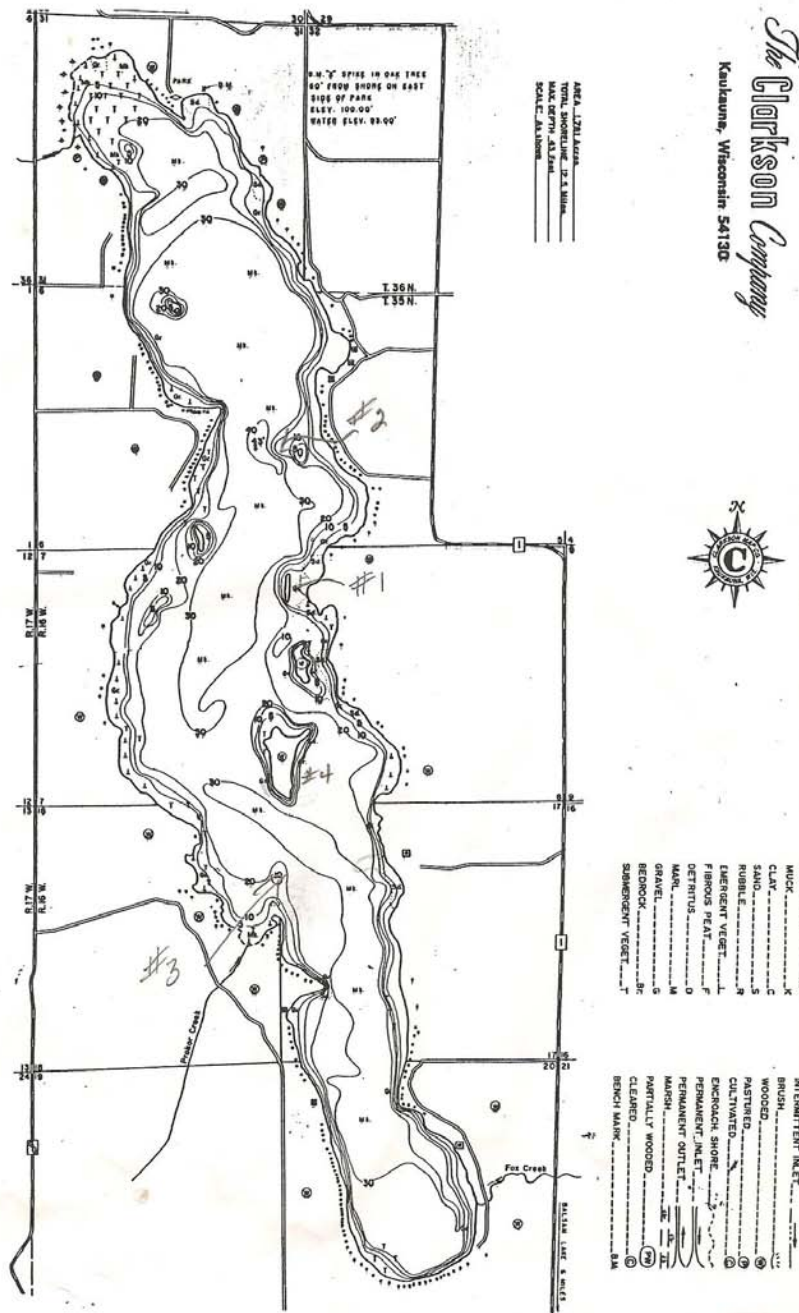
**(L-R: Joe Zaremba, Brett Christiansen 5 lb+, Jim Duplex)**

## Education Feature by Phil Szafranski - Mapping & Interpretation

## LAKE MAPS & ON-THE-WATER INTERPRETATION/RESULTS

You are looking at one of the best muskie lakes within a full day driving distance.

Note structure number 3 on the map here in the southwest part of the lake. The following page has a spoonplugger's map attached, allowing for easy interpretation as to where the muskies make contact. Does your interpretation offer the same opinion?





**Dates for National Network Outings:**

**Illinois Spoonpluggers Winter Seminar, March 24, 2012**

**Leoni Outing, Jackson, MI, June 20-24, 2012**

**Lunker Hunters Muskegon (MI) Outing, July 11-14, 2012**

**Northern Indiana "Buck Sez" Outing, August 16-18, 2012**

**Jamboree at Ken-Lake State Park & Resort on Kentucky Lake, Oct. 4-6, 2012**

**Spoonplugger Web Sites:**

**Spoonpluggers of America: [nsoa.info](http://nsoa.info)**

**Buck's Baits: [buckperry.com](http://buckperry.com)**

**Discussion Board, links, and more: [spoonplugger.net](http://spoonplugger.net)**

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