
Illinois Spoonpluggers

June 9, 2005

Elk Grove Library, 7:15 PM

Our next meeting will be held at the Elk Grove Library on Thursday, June 9, 2005 and we will begin at 7:15 PM.

The May meeting was attended by 7 hardy members as illness and accidents have sidelined some Illinois Spoonpluggers. *Gino Testone* is the latest casualty. He recently fell from his boat, which was parked in his driveway, and broke his heel. He'll be on crutches for the next six weeks but is expected to recover fully. *Wayne Dyllo* is scheduled to undergo knee surgery in the near future and we wish him a speedy turn around. The local walleye population hopes he's out for the year! *Harry Caliban* continues to mend from his broken leg and has enjoyed a few outings on the water with friends.

Our overhead projector is back in operation thanks to the efforts of *Harvey Smith* and his son. It seems our problem was only a defective bulb. Nice job Harvey!

Phil Szafranski quickly put the overhead to use with a map of the structure situation he found in southern Illinois. Phil was down there earlier this spring and made an outstanding catch of largemouth bass. He returned a couple of weeks later to indulge in some of the walleye action. Nice job, Phil. Make sure you check out his report.

Fishing reports have been coming in with some regularity and it's good to know Spoonpluggers are taking advantage of the fine spring weather we've been experiencing. A number of guys have been enjoying the excellent fishing on Heidecke. While a good percentage of the fish have been undersized quite a few keepers have graced the dinner table of those who have ventured out. Expect the action to peak in the next few weeks. *Craig Hubbard* reported on a new structure that appears to have potential. It fits the profile and he's caught some fish off of it. Check out his map and comments.

LURE ORDERS: *Jim Perillo* has resolved the price discrepancies and a lure order will be put in right after the meeting. Please be aware of the price differences between painted and polished lures and

make note in the change in the shipping charge. Lure orders will now be subject to a \$3 charge and if you order a rod, it will be an additional \$3. Thanks, Jim for tackling this job.

Craig has brought to our attention the new tollway charges being levied on cars towing boat trailers. It appears that costs have tripled since last year with rates varying on each toll road. It certainly seems like a good idea that we contact the Illinois Tollway Authority and express our displeasure with these new fees. Jim Perillo sent along the handout containing the new rates. Thanks guys for keeping us informed.

Topic of discussion: Fishing reports, lure orders, and club outings.

SPECIAL NOTE: A map finder has been added to bottom of the newsletter. Just type in your address and it will give you directions to the Elk Grove Library. Try it out!

Dates for 2005 National Outings

Land of Lincoln Spoonpluggers, Crab Orchard, June 19-22; Lunker Hunters, Muskegon Lake, MI, July 17-23; Northern Indiana Spoonpluggers, August 11-14; and North Carolina Outing, September 11-18.

Fishing Report

By Phil Szafranski

Catch:

10 walleyes between 15 and 20 inches; 4 bass between 15 and 18 inches

Weather:

Temps were near record highs during each day. The first day was travel and half day fishing, with the other two days being full days on the water. Days 3 and 5 had some cloud build up, with day four being washed out. My best catch came on day 4, with it being the warmest of the three days.

Water Color:

4 feet...this reservoir is clearing as the season has progressed.

Depth and Speed:

All walleyes were taken in four to five feet of water on a free running lure. Not one walleye taken while walking...? Bass were deeper...8 to 11 feet.

Time:

Movements between 10 - 11 AM and 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Comments:

Attempting to find credible information was difficult. This was my third trip down here; and I was force to cover much water before locating the fish on one structure. The first 10 fishing hours was tough. I picked up bass but I was not interested in fishing for them by anchoring after catching one. My focus was on the walleye. I could not locate a single walleye until I then encounter two fishermen from Indiana. They stopped and inquired what I was doing in the middle of the lake. They informed me that they picked up many smaller bass tight up against the shoreline, along with two walleye earlier in the day. They even showed me the minnow lure from Rapala that took the fish. Well, needless to say, I immediate put on a 400 and tucked up tight to the shoreline and had my first walleye on the recently mapped feature. It took about 10 minutes to connect with the first eye and had my 6 fish possession limit before the day was out.

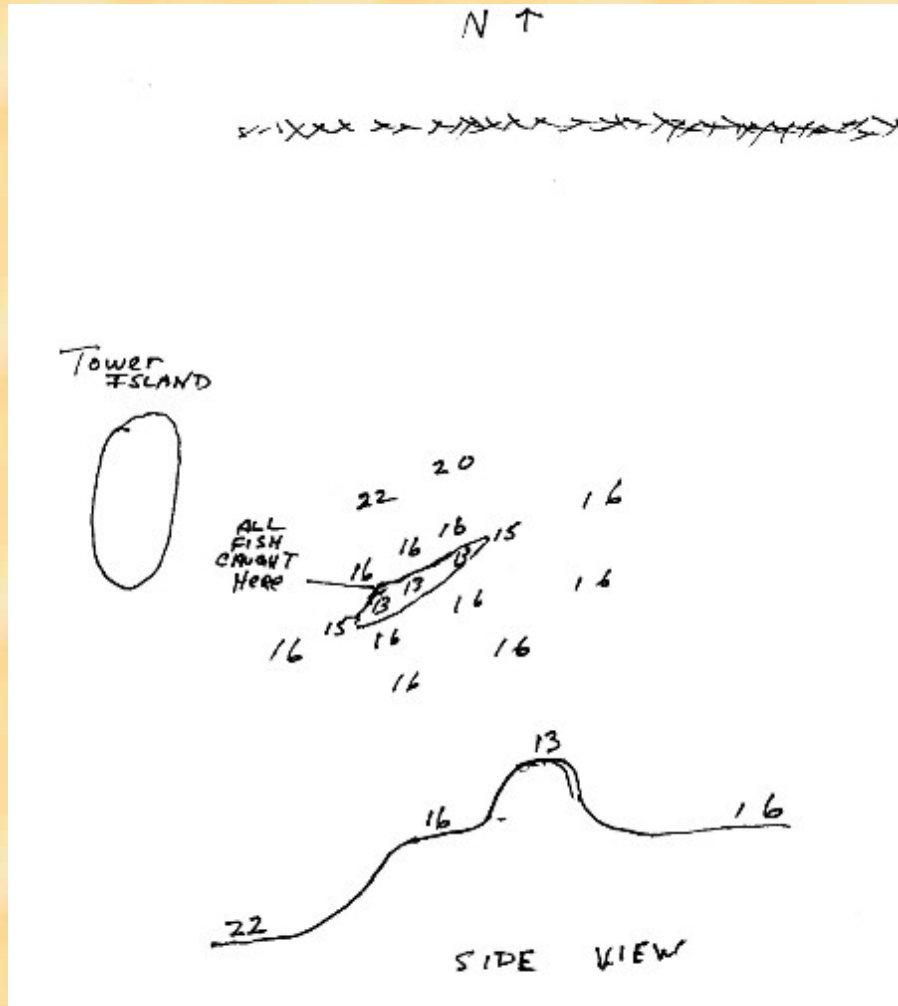


Mapping and Interpretation lead to Success and Satisfaction.

Fishing Report

By Craig Hubbard

I found this structure near the Center Ridge. It appears to be part of a road, but I am not sure. It is clean as far as I can tell (no snags), but firm. All fish were caught on top of the north side of the ridge closest to the deepest water (22'). This is a small structure; only 12' to 15' wide and 75' to 100' long. So far, I have only been able to fish it for two outings for a total time of maybe three hours. During this time, five fish were caught mostly back-trolling using jig and worm, but also trolling bottom-bouncers and spoonplugs.



An Excellent Spring for Walleyes!





"Walleye" Wayne has had a productive spring out on the water!



Jim has also enjoyed the exceptional spring fishing for walleye.

Illinois Tollway Fees

By Craig Hubbard

As we all know, our tollway fees have gone up. Last year, to travel on 355 it cost us 75 cents per toll when towing our trailers. This year it costs \$1.75 (off peak time) and \$2.25 (peak time). Having I-Pass does not help price-wise. It is the same amount whether you are paying cash or have I-Pass.

The Tollway Authority has grouped us in a “commercial” classification. We need to have our own “class” to bring us in line with what we paid last year.

If each of us were to write a letter, or two letters, to the Tollway Authority perhaps they would see this is a problem and start a movement to correct it. Please ask your friends and relatives who also tow trailers to do the same.

Addresses are as follows:

John Mitola

Chairman of the Board of Directors

2700 Ogden Ave.

Downers Grove, IL 60515

630-241-6800

Jack Hartman

Executive Director of Illinois Tollway

2700 Ogden Ave.

Downers Grove, IL 60515

630-241-6800

On January 1, 2005, the following rates will take effect on the Illinois TollWay.

TOLL RATES BY PLAZA (FOR YEARS 2005-2008)

Toll Plaza Name	Plaza No.	Vehicle Class							
		Autos		Trucks					
		All Times (I-PASS)	All Times (Cash)	Peak (Cash & I-PASS) Non-Peak Weekday (Cash) Weekend Dayside (Cash)			Overnight (Cash & I-PASS) Non-Peak Weekday (I-PASS) Weekend Dayside (I-PASS)		
				Small	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Large
75th Street	87	\$0.40	\$0.80	\$1.20	\$1.80	\$3.20	\$0.80	\$1.40	\$2.40
Boughton Road Mainline	89	\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$3.00
Boughton Road	90	\$0.25	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.15	\$2.00	\$0.50	\$0.90	\$1.50
North Mainline		\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$3.00
127th Street		\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$3.00
IL 7/159TH Street		\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$3.00
South Mainline		\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$3.00
US 6		\$0.15	\$0.25	\$0.45	\$0.70	\$1.20	\$0.30	\$0.55	\$0.90

Peak and Non-Peak Schedule

Peak = 8:00AM-9AM and 3:30PM-6:30PM

Non-Peak = 9:00AM-3:30PM and 6:30PM-10:00PM

Overnight = 10:30PM-6:00AM

NEW VEHICLE CLASSIFICATIONS AS OF JANUARY 1, 2005

Category	Description
Passenger Cars	Auto 2 axles; auto, motorcycle
Commercial Vehicles Vehicles w/Trailers	Small Truck 2 axles; tris; single unit trucks, buses
	Medium Truck 3 & 4 axles; trucks, buses, auto with 1-2 axle trailers
	Large Truck 5+ axles; trucks, auto with 3+ axle trailers

Autos with a 1 or 2 axle trailer are considered a medium truck.

