
Illinois Spoonplugger

December 14, 2006

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Giordano's Restaurant, Westchester, IL: 7:00 PM

Season's Greetings! The November meeting, attended by 11 members, was the last to be held at the Richport YMCA. All future meetings will be conducted at our north side location, the Elk Grove Public Library, beginning in January 2007. Those meetings will begin at 7:15 PM. Thanks again to *Joe Zaremba* for making the arrangements for the room.

CLUB BUSINESS

1. The December 14, 2006 meeting is our annual Christmas party and will be held again at *Giordano's* in Westchester, *10410 W. Cermak Rd., 708-531-1122*. We will convene the festivities at 7:00 PM. The restaurant is about 2 miles north of our meeting site at the Richport YMCA. Take I-294 to the Cermak Rd. exit and head east about 3 miles. Or, you can exit the Eisenhower expressway at Mannheim Rd. and go south 1 mile. The restaurant is located on the northwest corner of Cermak Rd. and Mannheim Rd. (Rt. 45). You can also get directions by using the map finder at the bottom of our online newsletter. A special thanks to *Craig Hubbard* for arranging our December meeting at *Giordano's*.
2. The November get together at the YMCA constituted our business meeting and jobs for next year are as follows: *Craig Hubbard* will be in charge of our tape library, *Jim Taylor* and *Jim Perillo* will act as treasurers, *Joe Zaremba* will handle maps, and *Scott Duff* will be the new editor of the newsletter. *Harvey Smith* will be snapping up your pictures for our photo album, *Phil Szafranski* will oversee that the overhead is available for meetings, and *Jim Perillo* will be in charge of satisfying our insatiable desire for Spoonplugs and related items by handling lure orders.
3. Concerning our checking account, *Jim Taylor* gave a summary of the obstacles he's encountered. We discussed a number of alternatives and he will continue to investigate the best way to proceed. Talk about paperwork and government regulations!!!!!!!!!!!! Thanks, *Jim* for your efforts.

Our sincerest gratitude and appreciation go out to these individuals who make it possible for the club to exist. They put in extra time and energy and it's through their efforts that the Illinois Spoonpluggers is a successful organization.

4. A general discussion followed pertaining to two important topics: club membership and meeting format. The pros and cons of increasing membership were discussed at length with a number of ideas being put forward to grow the club. An initial step to be taken will be to alert the Sun Times of our meetings and their location. They regularly announce the meeting dates of fishing clubs in the area. Craig will be our contact person.

Ed Zaremba had some incisive comments regarding meeting format. He said that he really got a lot out of the fishing reports, in particular the ones that came with detailed structure maps. Fishing reports with the when, where, why, and how were the most helpful. Those in attendance agreed that we should continue to emphasize Spoonplugger guidelines by encouraging all members who give reports to include structure maps in their presentations.

5. The 2007 Winter Seminar was discussed. See details below.

Here's what's been happening out on the water:

The fall fishing for muskies has been exceptionally good on the Madison Chain this year. It has not been unusual to have multiple fish days. Phil, Craig, and Jim have each connected with 45" fish with Scott picking off one over 46". Jim and Gino had a great day that resulted in the boating of 4 quality fish. Craig showed off his structure map at the meeting which led to a discussion of the various contact points the fish are using. *Rick Matus* has been plying the waters of Lake Delevan and has been rewarded with some quality walleyes.

Dates for 2007 National Outings

Illinois Spoonpluggers Winter Seminar, March 17, 2007; Bama & Ohio Spoonpluggers, April 11-15, 2007; Muskegon Lunker Hunters Outing at Fishermen's Landing, July 18-22, 2007; Northern Indiana "Buck Sez" outing August 9-11, 2007.

Note: Plano Tackle has an outlet store located in Plano, IL where you can purchase tackle boxes and accessories at reduced prices. Now might be the time to pay them a visit.

5TH ANNUAL WINTER SEMINAR

Plans for the March 17, 2007 seminar are beginning to take shape. *Jim Duplex* will coordinate the

day's activities. Scott led the discussion that recapped last year's program and offered suggestions for the 2007 event. The following decisions were agreed upon by those attending last Thursday's session:

- Seminar registration fees will remain the same for this year: for Spoonpluggers who pre register the cost will be \$17; for those registering at the door the cost will be \$20.
- A registration form and final details will be sent out with the January newsletter.

The following subject topics will be considered for the March presentation:

- ~ The Movements of the Fish
- ~ Structure, Breaks, and Breaklines
- ~ Weather and Water
- ~ Lake types
- ~ Mapping and Interpretation
- ~ Controls and Tools
- ~ Presentation of lures
- ~ Mental Aspects

Best Practice Ideas:

- ~ TO BE DETERMINED

FALL IS THE TIME FOR MUSKIE MANIA ON THE MADISON CHAIN!!!!



Phil took this 45" beauty while checking his depths.





Gino took this double header of muskie and northern working with wire line.









These last 4 fish were the rewards of a successful day applying Spoonplugging guidelines.

