

**Newsletter of the Illinois Spoonpluggers Club  
February, 2007**

**The next meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers will be on Thursday, February 8, 2007 at the Elk Grove Village Public Library. The meeting will start at 7:15 PM. Remember that all future meetings will be held at the Elk Grove Village location.**

**CLUB BUSINESS**

**1. CLUB DUES - This is a reminder that club membership dues need to be paid by the February meeting. Dues remain at \$20 with check made payable to James W. Taylor. Please indicate 2007 Dues on the memo line of the check.**

**Mail checks to: Jim Taylor  
c/o Illinois Spoonpluggers  
1367 Loch Lomond Dr.  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014**

**2. MEETING SUMMARY - The January meeting room was moved due to a scheduling glitch at the library. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM with 12 members present. Jim Taylor gave the Treasurer's Report and provided copies to the members. Jim Perillo collected orders for the club lure order and noted that there had been an increase in prices of about 10%.**

**Jim Duplex led the seminar planning discussion and all seemed to be going well. Joe Renhold's contact will again handle printing, and Jim Duplex passed around some items purchased from the Plano Tackle Outlet Store. Members discussed details relating to the seminar flyer, library policies, and went over the jobs list. Also pertaining to the seminar, it was decided that a Best Practices Presentation on CASTING should be included and that this topic would be timely and useful to members. It was noted that casting has been given particular emphasis in recent issues of the National Spoonplugger in articles by John Bales and Terry O'Malley.**

**REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS FOR THE SEMINAR TO PHIL BY THE MEETING ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8. The shared knowledge and experience of Spoonpluggers in a group discussion is what makes this event so unique.**

**Several members commented on the area sport fishing shows, and shared information about the Buck Perry-Spoonplugging display created by fishing historian Dan Basore. (see below)**

**3. LAKE BARKLEY CLUB OUTING JULY 28 -AUGUST 5!!! The members enthusiastically decided to hold a Club Outing at Lake Barkley/Kentucky Lake on July 28-August 5. Mark your calendars and try to attend whatever dates you are able! A good discussion followed with further planning for the Lake Barkley Outing to take place at the April club meeting.**

**4. FISHING REPORTS** - With the arrival of winter, and busy member work schedules, fishing reports have been pretty slow coming in. Jim Taylor enjoyed a trip to Texas and got into some Longhorn Largemouth. Sounds like he had a great time! Scott Duff headed north after New Year's for an express trip to the Lower Fox River in Green Bay. Due to the warm start to winter there was no ice or snow in sight, and some walleyes were caught with knowledge gained for future trips. However, Jim Perillo has the right idea; he is staying on Old Tampa Bay, right on the water, for a few weeks and reports catching jacks, ladyfish, sea trout, and catfish!

**5. UPCOMING MEETING** - We will be finalizing plans for the seminar and much more! Anyone interested in giving a year-in review report please let Jim Duplex know so you can be added to the agenda. The lure order has not arrived so Jim Perillo plans to bring what's delivered it to the March meeting.

#### **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**SPOONPLUGGING/BUCK PERRY DISPLAY AT LOCAL MUSEUM** - In case you haven't heard, the Lake County Discovery Museum in Wauconda (IL) will be featuring an exhibit called **HOOKED! THE HISTORY & INGENUITY OF SPORT FISHING** from March 3 through September 21, 2007.

The centerpiece of this exhibit will be a display about Buck Perry and Spoonplugging, including "tools", photos, articles, testimonials, and some old films by Buck. Portions of this exhibit have been on display at the sport fishing shows. The exhibit will include several attractions including historical tackle related items, an interactive Lure Lab for kids, and an "old country" Bait Shop.

As most Sponpluggers know, Lake County (IL) and the Fox Chain of Lakes was the site of Buck's breakthrough promotion, and many fine catches, which led to the Midwest becoming a center for Spoonplugging activity.

Basore's traveling Historical Fishing Display includes tackle items from the Bronze Age to the present, historical photographs, and artifacts of the fishing industry. Speaking with Dan at the Rosemont Fishing Show, Dan said he feels strongly that we as fishermen need to reach out to bring more people, and especially kids, into fishing if we are to keep it going. We probably can say the same about Spoonplugging.

**NOTE-A** related article can be found in the latest issue of National Spoonlugger.

**Contact:**

Lake County Discovery Museum  
Route 176 & Fairfield Rd., Wauconda, IL,  
Phone 847-968-3393  
[www.LCFPD.org/Hooked](http://www.LCFPD.org/Hooked)

**Dan Basore, Historical Fishing Display**

Phone 800-347-4525 or 630-393-3474

**MUSKIE STOCKINGS INCREASED AT FOX CHAIN** - The Illinois DNR reports a change in muskie stocking protocol on the Fox Chain of Lakes. Beginning in fall, 2006 yearly stockings of 3,000 muskie fingerlings have been initiated to increase muskie density. This is a change from the planting of 2130 fingerlings every other year. In their January, 2007 *Status of Muskie Fishing Report*, the DNR states, "This will translate into higher catch rates of smaller fish for fishermen., As growth rates slow, due to density dependent factors, stocking rates may be adjusted downward again to increase size. This trend will take 5 to 10 years to evaluate." The stockings will continue to be a mix of Leech Lake (spotted) strain and State planted barred muskie. Timing was moved earlier in the fall (September) to try to increase survival rates of the spotted strain. During the past couple of years fishermen have seen catches of average and smaller muskies decline while maximum size has increased. Muskie stockings were first initiated on the Chain in 1982.

*Dates for upcoming 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; North Carolina Outing, September 6-8, 2007; Chicamauga Reservoir, October 4-6, 2007.*

Newsletter Editor: Scott Duff, E-mail [swdclar@aol.com](mailto:swdclar@aol.com), Phone 847-690-1079



**Jim Taylor at Lake Placid, TX**