

ILLINOIS SPOONPLUGGER

December 13, 2007

CHRISTMAS PARTY

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

Season's Greetings! 13 members attended the November meeting and *Joe Zaremba* was there to confirm our date for the 2008 Seminar. He also gave a report and passed around photos of his successful trips to Whitewater Lake. Good to see you again Joe, and many thanks for making the arrangements for the meeting room and our seminar.

CLUB BUSINESS

1. The December 13, 2007 meeting is our annual Christmas party and will again be held 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 old 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). Special thanks to *Craig Hubbard* for making the arrangements.

2. The November get together at the Elk Grove Library constituted our business meeting and jobs for next year will remain the same: *Craig Hubbard* will be in charge of our tape library, *Jim Taylor* and *Jim Perillo* will act as treasurers, *Wayne Dyllo* will handle maps, and *Scott Duff* will continue to edit 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.

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 club.

3. Preliminary preparations for our Winter Seminar, March 15, 2008, were discussed. The format will remain the same with topics/speakers as yet to be determined. It was decided that seminar fees for all attendees this year, pre-registered or walkups, would be \$20. A registration form and final

details will be sent out with the January newsletter. Club dues for 2008 will remain the same and are \$20. If you'd like to write one check to cover both fees, please make it out to James Taylor and you can give it to him at the party or mail it. His address is *1367 Loch Lomond Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014*.

4. Jim Perillo will distribute lure orders at the party. If you are unable to attend, contact Jim to make other arrangements: 630-628-1211.

5. The November meeting featured some in depth fishing reports from Joe Zaremba, Gino Testone, Phil Szafranski, Jim Duplex, and Rick Matus. Joe detailed his efforts over the last month on Whitewater where he found considerable success catching bass and northern. Gino reported on his recent trip to Mille Lacs that resulted in a 45" muskie that took his 100 SP. Jim and Phil described the fishing situation on Waubesa that produced good catches of muskie. Their reports were enhanced by the maps of the structure situation that accompanied the discussion.

The highlight of the meeting was Rick's fishing report, which also included a structure map. He visited a lake in northern Wisconsin with his brother-in-law that they had not fished for 10 years. After an unproductive morning with his brother-in-law at the tiller, Rick was asked to take over and "see what he could do". Since this was a no trolling lake, Rick made some passes in an area he had fished years before, without the lures in the water. He located the end of the bar and dropped the only marker they had. The boat was positioned in the shallows and Rick made some casts into the deep water with a Silver Buddy while his brother-in-law soaked a minnow in search of walleyes. On about the 3rd cast, he hit a 32" muskie; after repositioning the boat at another break on the structure, he dropped a red tail chub over the side, lifted it a foot off the bottom, and immediately picked up a 38" muskie. The boat was repositioned again and this time his Silver Buddy was taken by a huge, 40"+, northern that was lost at the boat. When the action stopped, Rick guessed that the fish had moved shallower and once again $\langle \rangle$repositioned the boat. After a few casts, he boated the last fish of the day, a 23" walleyes. His brother-in-law still probably doesn't believe what happened!

Rick's report dramatized what a Spoonplugger who maps can do. It wasn't the the Spoonplug that put the fish in the boat, it was Spoonplugging knowledge that made the catch. Great job, Rick, Buck would be proud!

Here's what been happening on the water.

Jerry Hein, Norm Johnson, Frank Cipria, Phil, and Rick made good use of the few remaining days in the season with some outstanding catches of muskie from southern Wisconsin waters. Jerry and Norm took a half dozen muskies up to 46"+. The big fish came from 8' of water on a 250 SP. Not to be outdone, Phil took a 43" fish a few moments later; again on a 250 SP in 8' of water.

Frank took out Clay Russell and put him on a 48" fish, his biggest, that took an 800 SP from 23' and Rick closed out the season with three muskies: 34", 42", and 45" under

difficult conditions with winds blowing from 20 to 30 mph. Nice way to end the season,
Spoonpluggers!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Dates for 2008 National Outings

*Illinois Spoonpluggers Winter Seminar, March 15, 2008; The
Leoni Spoonpluggers outing will be June 11-15, 2008; Lunker
Hunters Muskegon Outing, July 9-13, 2008.*













