

Illinois Spoonpluggers

Newsletter

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

August, 2008

The next meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers will be on Thursday, August 14, 7:15 PM at the Elk Grove Village Public Library. Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month.

1. MEETING SUMMARY - The July meeting was attended by 6 club members and 1 guest. The light attendance was mainly attributed to many club members attending the National outing during our meeting week.

Fishing reports were limited in nature during the meeting. A discussion of structure situations utilizing the overhead involving fishing situations encountered in Central Illinois and Southwest Michigan was held.

2. NATIONAL OUTINGS NEWS- The **Muskegon Outing** in July was the second of three nearby outings of the summer season. The Lunker Hunters hospitality, along with the opportunity to fish some quality water, make this a can't miss event. The Illinois Spoonpluggers were well represented at this year's gathering with *Wayne and Ruth Dylo, Jerry and Mary Hein, Marty and Sue McAvoy, Scott Duff, George Schauner, and Jim Duplex* in attendance. As is usually the case, the weather did not cooperate. A cold front greeted us upon arrival on Wednesday and the second front sent us packing early Sunday morning.

Spoonpluggers are used to tough conditions though, and some good catches were made despite the weather. Wayne Dylo nailed a couple of beautiful walleyes to 9 lbs on Mona while Jerry and Mary caught double limits of largemouth bass on Hess, both on the troll and with live bait. The McAvoy family had a fun day with bass on Spring Lake, while Scott got into a school of bass on Allegan Lake boating 20 smallmouth. Jim and George had a good day for northerns on Muskegon with the big fish being "old rubber lips" taken, as usual, by Jim, "the carp man"! Other good catches were made by Joe Cinadr and his son-in-law Frank Nemecek on White and Muskegon for northerns, Chase on Muskegon for bass from a casting position, and John and Debbie Bales, also on Muskegon, for bass.

Chase led the discussion each evening under the hospitality tent with fishing reports being the primary focus of the talks; a white board was provided to enable participants to draw the structure situations being analyzed. Lakes, structures, and strategies led to participants taking this information and applying it the next day on the water. A truly unique learning experience. The sharing aspect at this event cannot be overstated. Often times, other Spoonpluggers on the lake would come by and give an update on fish activity, pointing out good structures, speed, and depth.

Once again, the culminating activity was the Saturday night fish fry where the week's hard work and success were rewarded with an outstanding dinner. A great deal of thanks and appreciation go out to Chase and all the Lunker Hunters who every year put on an outstanding event.

Many Illinois Spoonpluggers also had the opportunity to attend the excellent annual **"Buck Sez"**

Northern Indiana Outing. This outing includes a wide array of lakes featuring multi-species action for big bass, muskies, pike, and walleyes. In addition to the campground, there are numerous motel accommodations in the area.

It was great to see *Jeri Perry* who traveled all the way from Hickory, NC to attend the outing. Kudos to John and Debbie Bales, Ted Walter, Denny Coulardot, and the members of the Northern Indiana Club involved putting this together for their hospitality and efforts above and beyond. A delicious dinner (Friday) and a fish fry (Saturday) were enjoyed by all at the hospitality tent, while the Brown brothers treated everyone to their famous Valpo-Velvet Ice Cream. None of the 50 attendees went home hungry, that's for sure!

The Illinois Spoonpluggers were represented by *Dave Mucha* and *Phil Szafranski*, along with Wayne, Ruth, Scott, Jim, George, Marty and Sue. Spoonpluggers even from as far away as Washington and Nebraska were in attendance! We were also pleased to meet several additional active Spoonpluggers from here in Illinois.

For the second consecutive outing, Wayne Dylo had the big fish with a 45" muskie early in the week. Some walleye, pike to 37", and bass up to 5 lbs were caught although a couple of fronts made fishing pretty tough, even by spoonplugging standards. Still, much was learned that we can use the next time out because as we all know, "Knowledge is the Key to Success."

One of the great benefits of attending a Spoonplugger outing is the opportunity to share fishing knowledge and gain valuable experience, and the experience gathered at these events is really quite incredible! Don't miss out.

The next outing is the **Buck Perry Memorial Outing in Hickory, NC.**

FYI-The date for next year's Muskegon Outing has been set for July 8-12, 2009. Mark your calendars!

3. CLUB FISHING REPORTS -

This has obviously been an unusual summer weather wise. Chicago's longest average streak of 80+ degree high temperatures fell short this year by a week. While we have had bouts of extreme severe storms and flooding Spoonpluggers know how to adjust to conditions as evidenced by the reports below. Some fine catches have been made by being in the right place, at the right time, fishing in the right manner. Here are some reports for the past few weeks.

Check out this report from **Jim Shell** from Lake Mendota on July 18-19:

"Fished with Bob Roels. We were into the fish immediately, right out from the launch on the east side. The bass (mostly smallmouth) were on!...We boated over 70 fish. About (18) of those were smallmouth from 17" to 19", and (3) largemouth all around 18". The rest of the catch were northerns up to 30" and average size white bass. Most of these fish were caught up to 5:30pm. Had (2) doubles. (1) of them was a 19" smalie and a 30" pike...fun.

Most of the fish came on either white,silver,blue, yellow,pink,brown,red,black, yellow with red dots, perch color, yellow red head, gold, and red with white dots. (get the idea..)

Lesson learned: The whole bay area had very heavy algae, BETTER water color. Fish in the bay were VERY active (and reachable) versus fish outside the bay with less algae.

Returned on Sunday. Fished from 6:30am til 3pm. A lot of the algae in the bay was gone, but still good water color. Ended up boating 32 fish and hooked and lost another 10 fish. They weren't as aggressive as

Friday, but most came from the same areas. We boated a 21" walleye, 36" pike, 3 good sized smallies, 1 good largemouth and several pike in the 26 to 30" range with several white bass."

And this from **Jim Duplex** also on July 17 in S Wisc:

"My first pass with a 100SP produced a small northern; from then on, the action was non-stop! The peak of the movement came between 3-6PM when every pass produced a fish. When I left the lake, they were still going. Other Spoonpluggers who fished the lake on Friday confirmed that the northrens were still up and moving...It's obvious that this is the best weather situation of the season. Let's hope that it continues and you have the chance to get out." [Jim reported a count of 40-45 pike that day]

Rick Matus and his wife Lisa also were right on the money with their July 18 trip to S Wisc and had a ball with dozens of fish, mostly pike, being caught over a couple of days.

Scott Duff has had a number of successful trips to various lakes including East Fork Lake (bass), the Fox Chain (muskie, walleye), and S Wisc with some nice groups of pike.

Phil Szafranski has been frequenting SW Michigan for big pike and was pleasantly interrupted by a huge walleye of at least 10 lbs.

Clay Russell and *George Schauner* both report fishing Lake Mendota and boating pike to 36".

Recently, *Jim Duplex*, *Frank Cipria*, and *Wayne Dyllo* have been plying the waters of S Wisc for pike and bass. Jim also got into some pike and smallmouth on Lake Geneva and Lake Mendota. Wayne took out some friends out on Heidecke and reported a few walleyes still on the move.

Gino Testone recently returned from a trip to Mille Lacs and we look forward to his report at the upcoming meeting!

Dave Mucha has been hitting Michigan and Indiana for pike and bass, and got into a bunch of walleyes with *Frank Yavarasky* on Lake Pepin.

Great job, guys. Keep those reports coming!

Upcoming National Outings:

Buck Perry Memorial Outing, Taylorsville, NC, Sept. 4-9, 2008

Chattanooga Spoonpluggers Outing, Chickamauga Lake, TN, Oct. 2-5, 2008

Spoonplugger Web Sites:

Spoonpluggers of America: nsoa.info

Buck's Baits: buckperry.com / Discussion Board, links, and more: spoonplugger.net

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Phil Szafranski with huge MI walleye



Wayne Dylo-28" 9 1/2 lbs



Scott Duff - Lake Marie walleye 26 1/2", 700 SP



Frank Cipria & Jim Duplex - S. Wisc.

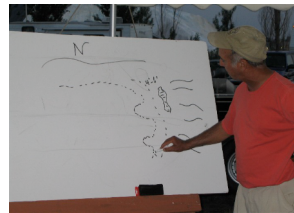


Jim & Frank with a big catch (tree) on a slow day!

Lunker Hunters Muskegon Outing-Knowledge Is The Key



Jerry & Mary Hein



Jim discusses a structure on Lake Muskegon



Indiana Outing - Forest Ridge Campground



Sue & Marty McAvoy



Jeri Perry (L) Ted Walter (R)



Mike Zaborny & John Bales



Ruth & Wayne Dylo

