

Illinois Spoonpluggers

Newsletter

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

June, 2008

The next meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers will be on Thursday, June 12, 7:15 PM at the Elk Grove Village Public Library. Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month.

1. MEETING SUMMARY - 11 members were in attendance at the last meeting. The evening's presentation focused on Heidecke Lake as an example lake for an interactive discussion. Phil Szafranski used Power Point to discuss a central feature used by the fish in their movements (south pool roadbed) and the structures relating to it (where to focus our efforts). The discussion drew input from the members as they discussed interpretation, weather and water, interpretation, presentation of lures, casting positions, etc. Thanks to everyone for your contributions to an informative Spoonplugging discussion! Its always interesting to compare and contrast how and on what structures we choose to spend our fishing day. That's part of the fun. The discussion was also an excellent reminder to us as Spoonpluggers that in most situations, *the goal is to get into a casting position..* This month will focus on Clinton Lake, the upcoming National Outings, and the summer fishing season. We hope you can be there!

2. FISHING REPORTS - A look at the water temperatures which have been stuck in the 60's tells the story of a chilly and unsettled month in the weather department. The story has been basically Day 1, Day 2, Day 1 unstable conditions the rule. A stormy front separating the hot, humid summery air mass from our chilly spring weather has been shifting north and south across the Midwest and Great Lakes Region literally for weeks. What's the answer to all of this unstable weather for the Spoonplugger? Well its the walleye, of course! Heidecke Lake has seen good numbers and sizes this year. In fact, reports from *Rick Matus, Frank Yavaraski, Wayne Dylo, Phil Szafranski, Joe and Ed Zaremba, Jim Duplex, and Scott Duff* indicate that good numbers and many of legal size (up to 22" reported) are up and on the move. Rick's recent vacation trips to Clinton Lake, and to Kinkaid Lake with his wife Lisa yielded some nice fish including bass, walleyes, and muskie to 42". *Scott Duff* reports having some fun with the walleyes, white bass, and musky on the Fox Chain of Lakes with these species being caught on Spoonplugs at times. Now that gas prices have gone through the roof those long trips for a day's fishing may be happening a little less often in the future. This can work to our advantage, however. With speed boat traffic down, and expected to continue to decline, those lakes closer to home lakes may once again begin to look a bit more attractive to the fisherman!

3. BUCK'S BAIT LURE ORDERS - *Jim Perillo* will be at the meeting putting together a club lure order to be sent in this month.

4. NATIONAL NEWS - The new National Spoonplugger website is: <http://www.nsoa.info>. In the future, the National Newsletter will be received online. This is a secure site and members should already have received instructions for using the new website as well as a logon password. Members choosing to continue to receive paper copiers of the National will still be able to do so. The website will enhance member benefits in numerous ways by providing: 1) an archive of past newsletters; 2) an article search for a specific topic you'd like to research; 3) full color and digital archival quality; 4) a detailed

membership directory; 5) instant updates of contact information; and 6) online payments.

4. **“LOCAL” NATIONAL OUTINGS** - As we reported last month, the summer outings are upon us with the Leoni Outing later this week. If you have never attended one of these events you are missing out as these outings are excellent opportunities for all Spoonpluggers. They offer a chance to expand your fishing horizons, learn new waters, and talk with other experienced Spoonpluggers. The outings are well attended and the hosts go WAY above and beyond to make everyone's experience a good one. With gas prices as they are, just get together with another club member and split the cost.

Upcoming National Outings:

Leoni Outing, Jackson, MI, June 11-15, 2008

Lunker Hunters Muskegon Outing, July 9-13, 2008

Northern Indiana Outing, August 7-9, 2008

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

Saving the best for last, this fine report from *Phil Szafranski* speaks to the fantastic gift of knowledge that we have been given by Mr. Perry, and the kind of satisfaction that it makes possible:

Went out today on the maiden voyage for the year and realized **I forgot to take my depth finder** when I was backing down the ramp. Needless to say it took great discipline to make the attached catch from an area I seldom fish. 10 fish between 12 - 24 inches [walleyes] from a casting position.

The discipline required the use of markers and an immediate anchor position without moving and waiting for them. Definitely a movement of approximately 20 minutes in the mid to late morning. I was not about to move once contacting the first fish from this seldom fished shoreline bar....

Used a short-line 700 to make one pass to help me identify the feature and throw the first marker as a reference point. Took the first fish approximately 20 yards from the original marker working a controlled drift. Once the first fish was contacted, threw a small marker for location and then went back to pick up the original. Once the original marker was picked up, immediately went back to the smaller marker and then had the fish on 5 consecutive casts. The remaining fish came minutes apart. ---Phil Szafranski

Spoonplugger Web Sites:

Spoonpluggers of America: NSOA.org

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

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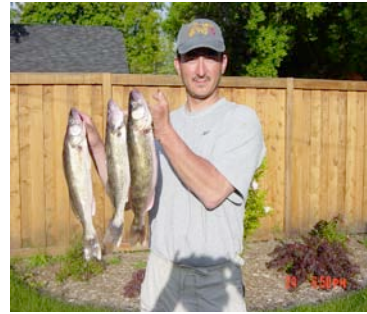
Its been a good season for Ol' Marble Eyes!



Jim Duplex



Phil Szafranski



Rick Matus in S. Illinois



**Angelo and Gino Testone's
double limit with a bonus cat**