

# Illinois Spoonpluggers

## Newsletter

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

**July, 2009**

The next meeting of the Illinois Spoonpluggers will be on Thursday, July 9, 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 May business meeting was held at the Elk Grove Village Public Library with 15 members present. In business, lure order matters were covered by Jim Perillo and Wayne Dyló. We have since learned that John Bales and Brent Robbins will be making blade baits available in several sizes. See the website for more information. Jim Taylor gave the treasurers report and provided a written summary of account activity. Please keep the club updated if your contact information changes so you can receive the newsletters and communications in a timely manner.

**2. NETWORK OUTINGS** - The next of the summer network events is the **Muskegon Outing at Fisherman's Landing** on July 8-11. Hosted each year by the Lunger Hunters of Michigan, the Muskegon Outing features an outstanding fishery on an variety of prime lakes. Accommodations range from camping at the base camp to a lodging in one of the many motels in the area. The camaraderie and learning environment provided, not to mention the outstanding fishing opportunities, make this an event not to be missed. Our club is planning a dinner on Thursday evening - contact Jim Taylor for more information. The **Indiana Outing near North Webster/Columbia City**, hosted by the Northern Illinois Spoonpluggers, will be August 13-15. Illinois Spoonpluggers will be well represented at that event, as well. Base camp is at Forest Ridge Campground and there are many good motels in the area. Many from our club stay in North Webster. Both outings culminate with a Saturday evening cookout dinner attended by 40-70 Spoonpluggers and their families.

*Wayne Dyló, George Schauner, and Jim Duplex* reported back from the **Leoni Outing (Jackson, MI)** hosted by John Zaborny. This year's outing was attended by around 70 Spoonpluggers!! John Zaborny goes WAY above and beyond to host this event and the hospitality could be called nothing less than GREAT! Daily breakfast, meetings and fishing reports, camping, camaraderie (all at his home in the country), and an array of waters ranging from local lakes to the Detroit River! With the early season running about 3 weeks late in SE Michigan and waters still very clear, the bass and pike had not turned on yet but the walleyes and white bass were cooperative, especially in the Detroit River.

*Wayne Dyló* started off the season with a trip o the **'Bama Outing at Weiss Lake**. This event is hosted by James Clark and features mainly fishing for stripers (pure) in Southern reservoirs. Talk about a mean fighting fish! The weather was cold and not exactly conducive to fish jumping in the boat but some stripers still were caught by the Spoonpluggers both above and below the dam.

**3. FISHING REPORTS** - It turning out to be a very good year for pike and muskies (!! ) and the walleyes and bass have also been going with some nice fish caught. Even though many waters were behind in developing color, SOME lakes are now VERY dark. The stretch of warm weather got the algae bloom going, plus the addition of current from recent rains, and this really turned up the dial on fish activity. Bass will also be in their summer patterns.

Numerous reports were given for a variety of waters at the meeting and here is a brief summary:

*Bob Roels* had several successful trips for early season walleyes on **Lake Wisconsin** back in April and May drawing on his extensive knowledge of this lake. *Wayne Dyllo* used slower speeds on the cast to get into the bass on **North Fork** (a highland reservoir). *Gino Testone* and *Phil Szafranski* have been searching out new structure situations on **Heidecke Lake** with considerable success with dozens of fish being caught. Gino stressed the importance of “focusing on what we need to do and follow the guidelines, and be sure to USE MARKERS!”

*Jerry Hein* fished **Lake Erie out of Port Clinton** with his brother. Walleyes averaged 22” and ran up to 25” with 60-70 fish being caught. Jerry described how it is necessary, due to the zebra mussels covering the bottom of that lake, that all bottom rigs (crawler harnesses, jigs, etc) float or be kept off the bottom by some means. Jerry and his wife, Mary, also fished Heidecke and got into a heft blue catfish.

*Jim Duplex, Jim Taylor, Scott Duff, and Dave Mucha* have been having a lot of success in **Southern Wisconsin** with the northerns when able to get out on the water, with 20-30 pike a day on peak days. *Phil Szafranski* used his Spoonplugging prowess to get into a school of big bass (20”+) on a lake in S. Wisc. 13-15 bass were caught, most on the cast with jump baits. “Taking a small bass on the troll allowed me to anchor and cast to the group.” Way to go, Phil! The Mucha’s (Dave, Michael, and Dave J.) also have been over in **SW Michigan** where they found the water clearer and northern pike a little tougher.

Finally, *Scott Duff* gave the report on his **51” muskie caught on the Fox Chain**. Quite an adventure, to say the least! Scott also reports that a successful trip to Southern Illinois back in June resulted in him boating 10 muskies in a stormy few days of fishing.

Great reports, guys!

This is shaping up to be a great fishing season, so long as the weather doesn’t get in the way! See you out on the water, and remember to send in those pictures!

**Upcoming National Fishing Outings:**

**Lunker Hunters Muskegon (MI) Outing, July 8-12, 2009**  
**Northern Indiana “Buck Sez” Outing, August 13-15, 2009**  
**Buck Perry Memorial Outing (NC), September 4-6, 2009**  
**Chickamauga Reservoir Outing (TN), October 1-3, 2009**

**Spoonplugger Web Sites:**

**Spoonpluggers of America: [nsoa.info](http://nsoa.info)**  
**Buck’s Baits: [buckperry.com](http://buckperry.com)**  
**Discussion Board, links, and more: [spoonplugger.net](http://spoonplugger.net)**

**Newsletter Editor:**

**Scott Duff, E-mail [swdclar@earthlink.net](mailto:swdclar@earthlink.net), Phone 847-690-1079**



Phil Szafranski with a few of his S. Wisc. lunkers



Scott Duff with S. Illinois muskie



51" from Fox Chain