



NORTHERN INDIANA SPOONPLUGGER



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The last meeting was held June 20, 2005 at the Kendallville Public Library with 20 members present. There were lots of photos being passed around to prove that summertime has finally arrived. Fishing reports were abundant and most everyone is having good success.

Northerns are starting to turn on and bass are post-spawn. The near-record temperatures are going to warm the waters to the deeper depths in pretty quick order, so the bass will not stay in the post-spawn doldrums for long. We've had a lot of hot, stable weather lately which is just the ticket for some great catches. The fishing reports suggest that all lakes have had some success which is to be expected with the stable weather conditions. There have been more good stable days this year than I can remember going back many years.

The title to the "big-one-that-DIDN'T-get-away" goes to John Bales son, Johnnie who caught a 55 1/2" musky while fishing with his dad on the Detroit River. The monster weighed 40.4 lbs. This is our club's best so far on the Detroit River. They seem to be getting bigger and bigger. I know of many over 45 inches caught there just this year and several over 50 inches.!

Mike Whirrett drew a couple of maps of spots on Hamilton and Winona Lakes and explained their characteristics.

NORTHERN INDIANA SPOONPLUGGERS

****ALL SPOONPLUGGERS INVITED****

ANNUAL "BUCK SEZ"

AUGUST 11, 12, 13, 2005

***BASE CAMP WILL BE LOCATED AT:
FOREST RIDGE CAMP GROUND***

(260) 327-3551

SWIMMING POOL, WATER & ELEC.
(MENTION NO. IND. SPOONPLUGGERS)

Area Motels:

Lee's Inn (260) 244-5300

Super 8 Motel 1-800-800-8000

Budget Inn (260) 248-4644

MOTELS ARE LOCATED ON US30 IN COLUMBIA CITY ABOUT 5 MILES FROM THE CAMPGROUND AND WITHIN 15 MILES OF MOST LAKES

***AREA LAKES INCLUDE: WEBSTER,
TIPPECANOE, WAWASEE, BARBEE CHAIN,
AND MORE.***

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

NEXT MEETING: July 18, 2005 at Kendallville Public Library 6:30 P.M. (We'll be discussing our upcoming outing...be there!)

DENNY COULARDOT (260) 691-3118
JOHN BALES (260)854-3921

"KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS"

**Denny Coulardot
with a couple of
nice Indiana
northerns.**



**Johnnie Bales boated this 40 lbs +
Detroit River muskie around the end
of June. It was 55 1/2 inches, had a
23 inch girth and weighed in at 40.4
lbs. just 8 lbs shy of the Michigan
State Record!!!**



**Ted with a 21" 5.75 lbs Largemouth from Jimmerson
Lake, Indiana 7/6/05**

“KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS”



Good Spoonplugging



By John Bales, Spoonplugging Instructor

Tools and Controls

Mr. Perry has stated that **trolling is our teacher**. It is TROLLING that will tell us **when** to cast, **what** to cast, **where** to cast, **why** to cast....and in the end, arrive at a school of big fish.

It is what we do on the cast once the fish are found on the troll that will determine how many fish are caught at that particular time and what we learn from this particular fishing situation.

Some fishermen forget that a Spoonplug can be the most effective tool we can use on the cast. More fish can be put in the boat when the situation calls for a Spoonplug rather than a jump-type lure. And when two Spoonpluggers are working a large group of big bass on the cast using Spoonplugs, we are fulfilling what our goal should be on each and every fishing trip: Getting into a school of fish on the cast. This is the ultimate achievement for every Spoonplugger.

If we locate a school of fish on the troll and do not use the correct tools when called for, the following is what will happen to our fishing: First of all, we will not catch as many fish out of the school using a jump-type lure. Second, we will begin to give credit to the lure and NOT to DEPTH AND SPEED! When this happens, our fishing success will take a downward trend and we will begin asking ourselves: "What happened to my fishing?"

There are times when we MUST use jump-type lures to make our catch on the cast. To insure that we continue the learning process we must keep in mind some guidelines. Use jump-type lures WHEN CALLED FOR, such as when the action subsides.

Trolling is constantly reminding us of depth and speed control. Casting jump-type lures TOO MUCH (when not called for) will get us into trouble.

ALL SUCCESSES AND FAILURES SHOULD BE ANSWERED IN TERMS OF DEPTH AND SPEED CONTROL.

Good Spoonplugging

John Bales

"KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS"



“The more I learn, the more I see there is to learn.” *E. L. “Buck” Perry*

BUCK SEZ:

In the study of water color, we approach the subject from the same standpoint we did in Weather Conditions. That is, in terms of LIGHT. We should think of it as how much light penetrates the water. The MORE penetration, the worse the condition. The LESS penetration, the better the condition. CLEAR WATER means deep fish, short migrations, slow growth, and reproduction, increased weed and moss growth, and usually more water skiers. It means more of everything that spells trouble for you as a fisherman.

The more dingy, cloudy, or darker the water is, the better the conditions for fishing. So—a Spoon-plugger will pay as much attention to his water color selection as he will the anything—gear, methods, weather, structure, etc. If the selection of water color is not considered, he is asking for troubles which may be avoided.

We are not saying that clear water does not contain fish. What we are saying is, water clarity will control or determine **how deep** fish are—where he starts from (sanctuary), **just how shallow he comes on migration, and how long he stays.**

Presentation of lures (or bait), and interpretation of the deeper structures can be very difficult. Which means, if you are “stuck” with a deep clear lake, you must take **more** time in studying the deeper structures. It means you must work **longer** and put forth **more** effort in presenting lures **more** correctly in deep water—if you expect any degree of success.

Your reaction might be: if this is so, why not fish at night only? Hold on a minute! We did not say an absence of light, as such, we said a light **condition**. We said we use light as our guide; we’re sure other factors are involved, but this does not change our original thought. If we had a clear water situation, and the fish did not move in the daytime, our “guideline” would dictate we wait for a darker condition of light to cause the fish to come **far enough** for us to make contact.

To clarify this, let’s say you are fishing a deep clear lake. If a movement occurs in the middle of the afternoon, you might not be aware of it because the fish did not migrate up to where you were fishing. If you stayed on the lake into the night, you would draw a blank, because the fish had **already moved**, and probably would not move again until the next morning.

When you are faced with deep clear lakes, fishing at night does have its good points, but it does not mean the fish will move every night, regardless what the weather and water conditions might be. At certain periods during mid-summer, the major movements may occur at night, If you are experiencing troubles in the daytime, check it at **daylight**. This should indicate the movement pattern, and you can fish accordingly. BUT you must remember, any sort of movement pattern can change overnight—it usually does—at the first weather change.

You must be aware of the fact that some species, at times **DO** move at night, and some species **DO NOT** move at night

“KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS”