



# NORTHERN INDIANA SPOONPLUGGER

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**FOUNDED 1991**

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The last meeting was held June 21, 2010 at the Kendallville Public Library with about 20 members and guests present.

We welcomed Stephen Gillian from Virginia. Stephen was here videotaping Part 2 in the *In-Your-Face Spoonplugging* Series with John Bales. Part 1 was a real hit, so Part 2 should also be extremely interesting. More information to follow!

President Denny said that if you're not catching fish now....you've gotta be doing something wrong!! The hot weather has warmed the deeper depths to a degree not seen in a few years. As a result, the fish are very active and good movements are taking place. Lake Wawasee is on fire for northerns right now and is also turning a yellow-green. Algae blooms are taking place on almost all of our natural lakes. In fact, there have been television news reports recently on the high levels and frequencies of algae blooms.

There have been the usual amounts of cold fronts, but they are now becoming a little weaker with longer periods between fronts and that trend should continue for at least another month through the summer peak. The normal period for the Midwest is just a little over 3 days between fronts with only a cou-

ple of instances of more than that per year. We have already seen several periods of longer times between fronts and it looks to be a very productive summer if the trend continues.

John said: "This is one of the best times of the year. The fish's metabolism is at it's highest and they must eat more often and the speeds are at their maximum."

John explained how to fish a weedline for post spawn bass and drew several situations on the blackboard as examples.

Denny then took over with some drawings and continued with some great Spoonplugging situations.

Don't forget our club's "**Buck Sez**" **Network Outing** is on for August 12, 13, & 14th, 2010 at Forest Ridge Campground (260) 327-3551. Or contact John Bales (260) 854-3921; Denny Coulardot (260) 691-3118; or Ted Walter (260) 495-5042.

Our next meeting will be the planning meeting for this event. Spouses are always welcome, but especially at this planning event, since some of us need all the help we can get!! Thanks.

**NEXT MEETING: July 19, 2010 at the Kendallville Public Library 6:30 P.M.**

**"KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS"**



**Denny Coulardot and Mike Price with some nice early season  
northerns**



***“KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS”***



# *Good Spoonplugging*

***By John Bales, Spoonplugging Instructor***



We talked a lot about the importance of water color but it can never be talked about too much. We are entering the time of the year that the algae blooms start to take place. When you see that happening, it is the best fishing of the year. The water temperatures are at their max and the fish must eat more. That one thing helps put the odds in our favor. The algae blooms bring the fish shallower and they stay longer in their movements better than any other time of the year. The speeds are fast which allows us to make hay and find out what is happening in short order and when we do find them, we can really put 'em in the boat quick.

We are in the early summer period. Most all of the fish have spawned and been through that slow period that we all hate but still understand what is happening. The clear waters during that period have a lot to do with the tough fishing but that is all past us. This is the time of the year to test your knowledge. Now is the time of the year that you should have no trouble making hay and if you are not, you should be asking yourself what is the problem and what can I do about it?

The northern pike fishing is the very best right now and it will continue to be prime time for two to three weeks. Especially for the large fish. Speaking of large fish, we have all seen bodies of water that have produced large fish over a period of years and then all of a sudden they no longer seem to exist. Mr. Perry used to say that the weather conditions would not allow a total catch of the largest fish of a species. Well, after 30 years of constant pressure, we have now seen a few lakes that have been a training ground for Spoonpluggers become void of the true giants. We still have one or two good lakes that produce some big northern pike. As Spoonpluggers, we should see that for the future of our fisheries, we should be responsible for releasing some of these larger fish. You have got to remember that it takes as many as 15 years to produce a northern pike that is 40 inches long and if you keep him, he does not get any bigger. Fifteen years of growth is gone with your decision to eat him. I am not saying that you should not keep any fish. However I am saying that you need to be aware of what these fisheries can produce. A body of water can be hurt by only a few good Spoonpluggers keeping everything that they catch. And it does not take as long as you would think to put a dent in the population of any species. Nuff said!!!!!!!!!!

*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:**

*“Each time I get to a new section, such as this weather and water study, and after reading your opening remarks, I keep asking myself: Why does he break all this material down into ‘sections?’ Why not state a fact, and then point out what we must do to catch the fish? Why go through all this study on the different subject matter?”*

My reaction to this is practically the same as yours. For too many years, I have preached the basic facts by showing, speaking, and written word. In fact, all the material found in this big study was in the first small sheet printed years and years ago. The reason for this detailed expanded version of Basics is due to the fact the fisherman did not hear, or did not understand. This is by no means a reflection on the intelligence of the fisherman. It was due to what he had heard, said, and done, and what others were saying or doing. His head was filled with doubts and unanswered questions. The purpose of this study is to see if doubts and questions can be so eliminated as **to make more fishermen more aware of fishing facts.**

When all is said and done, all that was ever needed was the Spoonplugger’s Basic Guideline. We have been stressing this point all through this study. That’s all I used, and it was all some of the better fishermen in the country used. If you grasp what was said in the Basic Guideline, you can see it’s all there.

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