



# NORTHERN INDIANA SPOONPLUGGER

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#193

**FOUNDED 1991**

November 2010

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The last meeting was held October 18, 2010 at the Kendallville Public Library with 14 members and guests present.

We welcomed new member Bart Albright, Denny Coulardot's future brother-in-law (see Page 2) Bart has spent a fair amount of time fishing with Denny this summer so he already has a head start on many beginning Spoonpluggers!

Denny has checked with Forest Ridge Campground in regards to the 2011 NIS Outing and reserved the dates of **August 11, 12, and 13, 2011**. They only have one confirmed seasonal camper so we should be OK to be in the same place we have been in previous years.

Denny also reported there had been a dry spell after the hot weather, but he is now catching musky again. Most all have been fairly deep (30ft plus). He has also been getting a few big bass at those depths. Dan Luley also reported some large bass.

John Bales is no longer a free man. He is now employed and due to the hours, he may not be able to make it to meetings.

He lamented that the best part of his life has just come to an end! "If that is what retirement is all about, I can't wait for that time to come." "To be able to fish nearly every day allows me to know exactly what the fish are doing." I think Denny would confirm that.

John relayed his story of quitting Spoonplugging in the 1980's to tournament fish. He spent 4 years on the circuit and had some good successes. In the early 1990's, Denny contacted him to see if he'd like to the Spoonpluggers Jamboree being held in Chatta-

nooga. John took him up on the offer. When he got back, he sold his bass boat, got back into Spoonplugging and has been having a ball ever since. His fishing improved dramatically after 4 years of stagnation. Speaking of Jamborees... Many veteran Spoonpluggers have fond memories of the annual Spoonpluggers Jamboree that took place at the Chester Frost State Park and hosted by the Chattanooga Spoonpluggers. This outstanding event featured several informative presentations and workshops by various Spoonpluggers and culminated in the keynote speaker of Mr. Perry himself on Saturday afternoon to put the icing on the cake.

The Jamboree was a very special event for many reasons. The instructional presentations were good. Help for those with questions was seemingly everywhere. But it was the acquaintances and friendships that developed during the event that have lasted throughout all these years that made the experience so priceless to the attendees.

Over the years since the Jamboree was lost to us, many Spoonpluggers have expressed regret and disappointment that it was unable to continue. During the past few years, John Bales along with a few allies have discussed attempting to revive this once essential meeting of Spoonpluggers from all over the country.

Recently John and Jim Duplex made arrangements for a location for the Jamboree at KenLake State Park on Kentucky Lake. (See Page 2 for details)

**NEXT MEETING: November 15, 2010 at  
Kendallville Public Library 6:30 P.M.**

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

*Tammy Ellen  
&  
Barton Joseph*

*Invite you to share with them  
the joy of their marriage*

*Saturday, the fourth of  
December Two thousand and  
ten at seven o'clock*

*At American Legion Post 47  
in Fort Wayne, In*

Directions to reception site

1. Take I-69 to the first Coldwater Rd exit(south)
2. Take Coldwater Rd to Washington Center Rd and turn left
3. Take Washington Center to St. Joe Rd and turn left
4. American Legion Post 47 will be on your right across from Shoaff Park

Spoonpluggers are invited to come celebrate with us! **Denny, Jeannie, Bart and Tammy**

**NOTICE**

You may register on-line by going to:[http://web.me.com/Binksboat/Site/2011\\_Spoonplugger\\_Jamboree.html](http://web.me.com/Binksboat/Site/2011_Spoonplugger_Jamboree.html)

**2011  
Spoonplugger Jamboree  
Kentucky Lake  
October 6, 7, & 8, 2011  
Kenlake State Resort Park  
542 Kenlake Rd  
Hardin KY 42048-9737  
Telephone 270-474-2211**

**Toll Free 800-325-0143**

- \* World Class Smallmouth Bass
- \* Largemouth Bass
- \* Sauger
- \* Catfish
- \* Stripers
- \*

Please make checks payable and mail to:  
Ted Walter  
6317 N. VanGuilder Rd.  
Fremont, IN 46737-8984

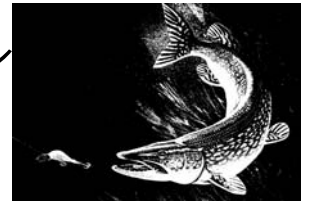
- \* Pot Luck Dinner Friday Night
- \* Saturday Meal Provided
- \* Presentation After Dinner Saturday
- \* Pre-Registration \$25.00
- \* Family Registration \$50.00
- \* Late Registration \$35.00/person

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



# *Good Spoonplugging*

**By John Bales, Spoonplugging Instructor**



After two years of being on unemployment, I have finally found a job. After the first week, it was realized that fishing is not such a physical thing but more of a mental toughness. Normal fishing does not bring sweat dripping off of a persons nose and face unless you are in Florida during the heat of the summer like Kenny Hyde and I did. Yes my vacation is over but it was quite enjoyable. It was a little like being retired with just enough money to live if you watch what you spend. One of the most enjoyable parts of it was knowing what the fish were doing no matter where you went. You get to stay on the fish and see how they are effected by weather and water conditions on a day by day basis. It's still about the learning and that part of it never stops. Do you suppose that's why Mr. Perry said that "Knowledge is the key to fishing success"?

Looking back at our Florida trip, it is amazing what can be learned on a body of water where the maximum depth is only 14 feet deep. You may wonder what could be difficult about fishing such a shallow body of water where all depth's can be reached? If you have ever been fishing on a Florida lake following a cold front, you will see how the bass are affected and this in itself is a learning experience that will teach you a lot. Five straight days went by before the fish began to get active. Mr. Perry told us that this would be the case and if you have ever had doubt's about anything that he says, you might want to experience some fishing situations before you doubt.

This past summers heat should have brought with it some of the best fishing that we have had in years. All of our natural lakes had some of the best water color that you could ask for. Water temperatures were some of the highest in years. Shouldn't that have made the fish more active? Did you ask yourself these questions also? Shouldn't the fish have moved shallower and stayed longer during this hot period of the year? I can honestly say that this was not one of the best summers for our Spoonpluggers. The northern pike fishing on Lake Wawasee was not up to par for sure! One of the things that the Spoonplugger prays for is hot weather. The hotter the better! So how do we explain the not so good catching this summer? I'll just leave this for thought and this will make good conversation at the next meeting. It will also tell who really reads this and who throws it in the trash!

*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:**

Whenever the movement occurs, early or late, in the middle of the day or night it does not necessarily mean that any two movements will be for the same distance or for the same length of time. How far the fish go and how long they stay is controlled by the weather and water conditions at that particular time. No matter how many times, or periods, we go fishing, we are not likely to find the same conditions twice.

When migration occurs, the fish move up these structures, using the bottom features as their guide. If conditions are good, they move up to the eight to ten foot depth. If conditions are very good, some will then scatter into the shallows. When fish scatter into the shallows along the shoreline, the fisherman becomes aware of it, as this is the time he says, “The fish are biting.”

At certain times of the year, spring mostly, the fish may remain for some time in the shallows, and they may move as far as the bays, coves, flats, etc. However, most of the season they are in the shallows in quantity for only a short period of time, and the distance they scatter will not be very great; thus, the productive shoreline can be very short.

The first fish to appear in the shallows will be the smaller “yearling” fish. If yearling bass are caught in the shallows this usually means a movement, and the larger fish could be at a reachable depth, on structure, in the near area.

Usually, though, the migration of the larger fish does not extend quite to or past the scatter point (eight to ten feet). This is particularly true if the school contains the biggest bass found in the waters of the area.

Never expect this entire school of large fish to move into the shallows and scatter at the same time. In all of our fishing, we have never seen more than two or three move in at one time. You have probably fished the shoreline at some time and found the bass really biting. But how many **big** fish did you catch? The reason you caught only a few, or none, perhaps was not due to any fault of yours, nor was it due to the fact that these large fish were wise “ole birds.” It was due to the fact the fish were not there.

North or south, some fish live longer, grow faster, and obtain a final weight above the average, but normally largemouth bass will die off by the time they reach six pounds. In most areas of the country, the average life span in relation to the average growing rate will **normally produce some schools whose average weight is slightly under six pounds**. But whatever the average final weight, if any “lunkers” exist in the area, they will be with this group. A group (or school) could be all one size (2 lbs., 3 lbs., 4 lbs., etc.) or the school could contain several sizes.

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