

FISHING REPORTS

Clarence Allen fished Camp Lake for bluegills but said they just got small fish, although many fish were seen on the sounder. Bob Strek said that the Lake Michigan salmon fishing is off and on, depending on the wind and waves. About a week ago, the water temperature was 74 degrees in Lake Michigan. Today it was 64 degrees. Last Sunday Roger Bouwkamp caught several good sized bass from Mona Lake on #400 and 250 Spoonplugs at medium to slow speeds. Some feel that the bass gobble up the walleyes that are planted there. Don Stephens reported fishing with Brent Robbins on Silvan Lake at the Northern Indiana Spoonpluggers Outing August 12. They caught 7 bass, which is good for being on a new lake under cold front conditions. Chase also fished that lake and caught a few bass plus his first Blue Catfish at 19 pounds and 33 inches (picture attached). Don and Chase fished Webster Lake at the outing also, and came up with a 34 inch muskie. The Indiana Outing is one of the best, and many nice fish were caught by some of the top Spoonpluggers in the Midwest.

Jack Clark reminded us to check the drags on our trolling reels and make sure they work smoothly. He has lost several fish because of a jerky drag. He found a supply for Teflon drag washers for the Penn 109 reels which really work well. Roger said he heard that the rear treble hook on a Spoonplug must have one hook pointing straight down (not 2 to the sides) to get maximum depth. This should be considered when replacing a rear treble hook.

PROGRAM

We watched a video of John Bales and Don Stephens Trolling 800s' and wire on a 34 foot breakline in Muskegon Lake. 3-way rigs were used part of the time with a light jig and grub above the Spoonplug. John uses a snap in the leader swivel for easy placement and removal of the line with the jig. With zebra mussels present, he uses an 80 pound test mono leader on the Spoonplug to give flexibility and prevent cutting the line. Don uses a spring wire tip on his wire line rod to reduce tip wear and make it easier to reel in. It is called a Twili-Tip and you can get more information about it at: fishingrodstuff.com. John showed how the flasher is ideal for following a deep breakline by observing changes in the width of the signal and because of the instant reading. The structure situation knowledge and presentation methods created much discussion.

Chase Klinesteker

