

## LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING JANUARY 4, 2007

### FISHING REPORTS

Tom Moore fished the Big Manistee River last Tuesday and got 6 for 7 steelhead trolling cranks. They averaged 6 ½ pounds and all were nice fish fresh from Lake Michigan. Some perch were being caught from Fremont Lake. Tom reported that from October 10 to November 10 he caught over 200 walleyes from Fremont Lake. Most were caught on jump lures anchored in 12 feet casting to depths of 10 to 20 feet. Nice job, Tom. Your detailed knowledge about the structure in that lake has really paid off! Don Stephens has fished the Grand River some but the water has been high and turbid. He did catch a nice 25 inch brown trout about a week ago. Roger Bouwkamp got a few smaller pike from Lincoln Lake and a 32 inch pike from Big Pine Island Lake. Charlie Myers says it is either feast or famine from the Grand River lately. It was good last week above the dam where he caught several nice steelhead trolling (and brought pictures to prove it!). Reports of good catches have been coming from below the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Dam. In high water many fish seem to be up in the trees and spread out. A good website was recommended for those that would like to learn more knots at [animatedknots.com](http://animatedknots.com).

### MEETING

\$15. dues are due for members by March. Several paid at the meeting or you could send a check made out to Roger Bouwkamp, 5491 Cannon Meadows Dr., Ada, MI 49301. Plan on the Valentines Dinner on February 9 at Brans' on 28<sup>th</sup> Street. Think about a Door Prize you could bring or solicit for this. More details in a later E-Mail. Mike Dordan needs fish pictures E-Mailed to him for the clubs' promotional brochure he is making up. Sent them to [dordan@iserv.net](mailto:dordan@iserv.net). If you are interested in going to the Illinois Spoonpluggers Winter Seminar, contact Chase. Roger, Charlie, Tom, Don, and Brent also are thinking about going. If anyone living on the South side of town could pick up Jack Bright for some meetings, it would be appreciated. Contact Jack at [reels4me@earthlink.net](mailto:reels4me@earthlink.net). John Bales will be doing a seminar at Leisure Village on Saturday, April 21, 2007 with a theme of "Your Fishing Questions Answered". We will need to get going on the promotion of it. Good news about Jim VanAsselt. Although it has been rough, he is doing much better and may be driving soon! Board meeting is Friday January 12, 9:00AM at Cheers Restaurant on Plainfield.

### 1<sup>st</sup> PROGRAM

Terry Velting spoke about "Using Computers to Increase Fishing Knowledge". He said the most important thing is to know where to get the best information. He recommended several websites to check out. Try looking for them on Google.

WMWC.net—has walleye info on its' homepage

Rocketman Musky Club---Has some good posts on Lake St Clair and the Detroit River muskies

greatmich.com---has many posts on their discussion page and good fishing reports

greatlakescam.com---access to current video cams of Lake Michigan ports

wotv.com---The weather page shows cams of Holland and Grand Haven piers  
michigan.gov/dnr---has inland lake maps, stocking records, boat access sites, and much more

mssfafa.com---The Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermans Association has several good links

spoonplugger.net---a great forum for information, hosted by some top Spoonpluggers

buckperry.com---The official web site for Spoonplugging with introductory Spoonplugging articles, page to order online, and class information.

Spoonplugger.net---a great site by the Illinois Spoonpluggers with articles, video clips, fish pics, and newsletters from other Spoonplugging clubs

nauticalcharts.com---a site where top fishing and navigational charts can be purchased

mucc.org---a good lake map site, some with more detail than DNR maps

walleyecentral.com---info, links, articles, and forum on walleye

americantackle.com---their discussion board is very good and up to date, although fishing reports can be old

Many thanks to Terry for getting all this information for us. Winter is a good time to check these sites out!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> PROGRAM

The question was asked of each person present, "How Important is Water Color?" Charlie Myers put it simply that it was easy vs. tough fishing. Bob Streck mentioned that he fishes clear cold brooks for trout and that he catches most of the largest trout after a rain clouds up the water. Dave Harding fishes mudlines in Lake Michigan and weedlines in salt water where the water color is darker. John Steponavitch fishes Lower Herring Lake which is very clear, but he has noticed that the panfish really turn on after a good wind has riled up the shallows and made the water cloudy. Tom Moore lives on and fishes Fremont Lake which is very clear. He feels his success relies much on fishing at night and low light times of dawn and dusk. Brian Fredrick fishes the Kalamazoo River and Lake Macatawa, both having dark water. He feels that daytime fishing is much better in this darker water. He catches a lot of fish around the mudline in Lake Michigan. The only time he feels clear water lakes might have a slight advantage is in late fall. Terry Velting feels that clear water makes the fish much spookier and more difficult to catch. Don Stephens felt that if we had paid more attention to water color many years ago, our fishing knowledge and success would have progressed much faster.

There you have it, experience and testimonials to the benefits of fishing darker waters. Of course, we could have just read Buck Perrys' book, written in 1965, to learn that and much, much more about fish behavior, but then we are fishermen-----.

Chase Klinesteker