

LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING NOVEMBER 1, 2007

FISHING REPORTS

Don Stephens hooked 2 muskies on Murry Lake. One was about 40 inches but was lost at the boat. He also got 2 pike there. They were caught on #200 Spoonplugs and wire line at about 18 feet. Speed has been 2-3 mph. Don has fished the Grand River for steelhead a couple of times but no fish yet. Jim VanAsselt has been getting some bluegill from Camp Lake. He spent 4 days surf fishing different spots on Lake Michigan in hopes that the steelhead would be there, but to no avail. Bob Streck said that they had a recent steelhead tournament and that few steelhead were caught. He did catch 4 catfish, though. Bob fished Hardy Pond with Chase and they caught 3 pike to 32 inches. Too bad it was a walleye tournament! Charlie Myers has been fishing Murry Lake a lot and has gotten a few muskies and pike. He also fished Wabasis Lake one day and got several pike, but most were small. Roger Bouwkamp has also fished Murry lately and has gotten a few muskies and a 39 ½ inch pike. A #700 Spoonplug at 20 feet seemed to work best for him.

PROGRAM

Bob Streck and Chase Klinesteker gave a program on “Mapping and Visualizing Structure”. Handouts were used to review the basic movements of fish and the definition of, and facts about structure. Knowledge about structure and how and where fish move on it is very important. The importance of reading and studying the “National Spoonplugger” newsletter was emphasized, and attention was called to the most recent issue with great articles on mapping by Terry O’Malley. Then Bob got up and projected drawings he made of how he visualized the bottom structure of a bar we mapped with the depth sounder. Markers and straight line passes were essential in this process. The drawings depicted a side view of the structure as it appeared on the graph as the boat made straight line passes parallel to the shoreline. Combining information from these passes gives one information to help visualize what is below the water. Bob related how much this attention to structure helped him visualize it in his mind to better position the boat for fishing. Fish do not move constantly nor consistently. By knowing all of a structure, one can spend more time on the best areas of it.

Jim VanAsselt gave a program on how he fishes spawn for steelhead after a short video was shown. He brought rigged rods for us to examine. He uses a sliding sinker with the weight determined by whether you can feel the bottom or not. He uses a pyramid sinker in the surf and a bell sinker in the river. A 10 foot rod is used to cast maximum distance, especially in the surf. When the fish are in, Jim catches his share and more of steelhead!

To finish, Roger projected a map of Murry Lake on the wall and proceeded to point out structures that he fishes. Roger has progressed greatly this year in his fishing. Much of that can be attributed to his determination to fish new lakes and learn new structures. He has been the one to find productive lakes and then share his knowledge with the rest of us in the true spirit of a Spoonplugger. Congratulations and thanks to Roger for his contributions to our club!

Chase Klinesteker