

## LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING MAY 6, 2010

### FISHING REPORTS

Tom Moore got many bluegills on a flyrod from shallow canals that warmed early. Walleye were not very active in Fremont Lake yet. John Bouws reported few perch caught from Lake Michigan so far this year. Brent Robbins got a couple walleye at night by the pierheads in Lake Michigan at Muskegon and 2 pike from the east basin of White Lake. White Lake does have big pike, as Brent reported 2 pike were speared from there this winter in the 20-25 pound class! Some perch were reported caught at Pentwater. Charlie Myers fished Murry lake and got 1 muskie. He later fished with Will Schultz guiding and learned a lot about Murry muskie and will present a program on it later. Larry Simonsen fished Duncan, Camp, and Campau lakes but there was not much action this early. Jim VanAsselt found the panfish biting well on Camp Lake.

### MEETING

18 attended the meeting. The highlight of the meeting was the club presenting Don Stephens a very nicely done plaque commemorating his longtime efforts for the Lunker Hunters. The plaque reads: "To Don Stephens---a great fisherman and friend to all--- in recognition of the many years of service with the Lunker Hunters". Not much more needs to be said. Congratulations, Don, and thanks for all you have done for the club!!

A get well card was passed around and signed for Clarence Allens' wife who had a stroke a few weeks ago. We wish her the best and a speedy recovery. The Muskegon Outing on July 7-11 was discussed. Mike Dordan will take care of getting the Hospitality Tent, which we will set up Wednesday evening. All members are expected to pitch in and help, even if they can only make it for the Saturday evening meal. John Lindsley, an active member in the past sent his best regards. He lives in Texas and would like to hear from some of the "old-timers". You could send him an E-Mail at: [jlindsle.us.ibm.com](mailto:jlindsle.us.ibm.com). The Youth Tournament will be held on Mona Lake on Saturday August 7 from 8:00AM until noon, and a picnic afterwards. Jim VanAsselt and Don Stephens are coordinating it, so plan on the date and inform your kids/grandkids now! The study Lakes for May were Thornapple and big Whitefish. Hopefully we will have some reports on them at the meeting. Don't forget the Leoni Spoonpluggers Outing June 10-13 and Northern Indiana Spoonpluggers "Buck Sez" Outing August 12-15. Much can be learned from other Spoonpluggers at these outings.

(A board meeting was held on May 24, 2010 at cheers Restaurant. John Stepanovich had mentioned about having a fall outing up on Lower Herring Lake this year also, and we all liked the idea! The spring outing last weekend went well and everyone had a good time. We wish to sincerely thank John Stepanovich and his family for the great hospitality! Although the food worked out well, it was suggested that in the future we have some sort of a sign-up list to bring needed food. A fall outing tentative date of September 16-19 was chosen pending availability, etc. A program was set up for the July meeting. Charlie Flanders, who is a professional surveyor, will talk about "Mapping Resources from a Surveyors' Perspective". Normally we meet on the first Thursday of every month, but we moved the meeting to Thursday, July 8 at Fishermans' Landing campground during the Muskegon Outing. All are

welcome to attend and meet many Spoonpluggers from around the Midwest. A date for the next board meeting was set for June 25.)

## PROGRAM

Miner Lake was the "Lake of the Month" for April so the map was projected on the wall and comments were made about likely structure situations. The program subject was "Panfish" given by 4 members. Jim VanAsselt first got up and talked about bluegill on Camp Lake. At this time of year he uses worms, 2 small hooks, and 4-6 pound line. The hooks are put on loops in the line like a drop-shot rig. Now the fish seem to be located down about 4 feet over deep water, not on the beds. John Bouws talked about perch in Lake Michigan. He handed out a contour map of lake Michigan at Holland with perch locations on it. Grand Haven, South Haven, and Saint Joe are good now. A heavy 1-2 ounce sinker is needed to get the bait down quickly. The weight keeps the bait more steady in sometimes rougher weather. He uses a Bear Claw connector to put 2 snelled hooks on each line. Some perch were located in 35 feet of water south of the pier recently but can move in and out to 60 or more feet. Morning and evening are the best times for perch. Schools can be large and he anchors to fish. Fireline gives a better feel of bites. Next, Tom Moore talked about crappie on Fremont Lake. He uses small 2 inch tubes and light jigs of 1/32, 1/16, and 1/8 ounce size. He feels that the 1/8 ounce size may fall too fast in many instances. Crappie spawn at about 60 degree surface water temperature. After the spawn he fishes real slowly along weedline dropoffs with 3/16 to 3/8 ounce jigs with double twister tails. Tom likes them in a red color but uses other colors also. Finally, Charlie Flanders talked about fly-fishing for bluegills in the spring. Spawning can be at different stages in different areas of a lake. He feels a fly is a great presentation in this instance because bluegills are spread out on flats and can be covered quickly with a fly. Males guarding eggs are more aggressive and speed control can be varied with selection of line, fly weight, and movement of fly on the surface. Wet flies with floating or sinking lines can also be used for depth control. Flies, spiders, and poppers can be selected in different sizes. Because of bluegills' small mouths, larger lures catch mostly bigger fish. Charlie recommends for us to watch the weather closely. Often later in the afternoon, the fish will move onto the beds and become active. He uses 7 and 8 foot flyrods but feels one can even fish flies with a bobber and spinning rod.

We want to thank Jim, John, Tom, and Charlie for all the useful information given about panfishing. I can taste them already!!

Chase Klinesteker