

Illinois Spoonplugger

October 2014

September Club Meeting

Attendees – Wayne Dylo, Jerry Hein, Scott Kramer, Craig Hubbard, Jim Taylor, Jim Duplex, Jim Shell, Ed Zaremba, Bob Roels

Discussions

Outings

Everyone who attended any of the outings reports they are fantastic and when you can go! Start planning for next year. Watch NSOAA for dates. Below is typical timeframe.

- Leoni Spoonpluggers Outing, Jackson, MI – 3rd weekend in June
- Lunker Hunters Outing, Muskegon, MI – 2nd weekend in July
- Northern Indiana Spoonpluggers “Buck Sez” Outing, Tippecanoe area, IN – 2nd weekend in August

Fuel Line and Gas Problems

Jerry Hein reports his fuel line inner tubing actually was cracking and pieces were making it to the carburetor. The internal fuel filter screen in the motor was not effective at preventing all the debris from reaching the carburetor. As a result he must now clean and possibly rebuild the carburetor. To avoid a problem inspect your fuel lines by feeling for brittleness and cracking when you bend the line. The exterior of the fuel line will appear fine.

To prevent fuel problems a second in-line fuel filter added to the fuel line can help. These are simple paper element filters where you can see through the plastic housing. They are available at Bass Pro, Wal Mart, Cabelas, and most marine shops. The new larger motors now require an inline fuel filter with water separator.

Stabil was also discussed and if Stabil contributed to the deterioration of the fuel line. Regardless of what caused the problem we were all reminded to use the correct Stabil product for outboards, and not Stabil for lawnmowers. Seafoam a similar product can be used to winterize and avoid gas problems. Many marine dealers prefer Seafoam.

Spoonplugging Rods

Jim Duplex reports Mike Beck’s rods are fantastic. The cost is well over \$100. If you are handy and want to build your own rod – Jan’s Netcraft and Get Bit Outdoors sell solid fiberglass blanks. I built a few using the old Fuji handle from the Buck’s rods, and cork handles. I wanted a slightly longer rod to extend over the gunwale of the now wider designed boats due to increased outboard weights. The blanks are available from Jan’s Netcraft or Get Bit Outdoors. The blanks are \$11. To build your own spoonplugging rod from scratch below are typical costs for the entire rod. Mudhole and Getbit Outdoors have how to videos. I can show you how to re-use your old handle by wrapping masking tape around the butt of the new blank to the same inside diameter of the old rod handle ferrule opening, and then filling with epoxy. The blank will be permanently installed.

Components	Price	
Blank	\$12	http://www.getbitoutdoors.com/blanks/batson-blanks/saltwater.html Rainshadow Solid Glass - Multi Purpose / Boat Rod 1pc, 6.0' http://www.jannsnecraft.com/solid-fiberglass-rod-blanks/02612500008.aspx Netcraft 6 foot solid fiberglass rod blanks are rated for 15-25 lb. line test
Handle kit	\$15-30	Re-use old handle at no cost, EVA foam is cheapest, Cork handle is most expensive.
Tip top	\$3-12	You can re-use tip top from existing blank at no cost, use a standard ceramic tip for \$3 or less, or buy any of the harder ceramics that can handle wire without wear and less fiction such as silicon carbide or buy a Twilly tip.

Guides	\$7-35	Same as above. You will need 4-6 guides depending on rod length and personal preferences.
Thread and finish	\$6-16	Clear polyurethane will work, but for least hassle Flex-coat kit will coat 4-6 rods. Rod thread is cheap.
Total Cost Estimate	\$30-\$110	

The cheapest alternative is a Zebco Rhino bait cast rod at \$22. It has added length, solid glass tip, e-glass graphite composite blank, light in weight, has backbone and a fast tip is very durable. Jim reports even with the fast tip the rod clears weeds well. The only criticism he has is the ring of the tip-top and guides are not large enough reel the swivel past the tip when using wire. Ask Jim Shell the Spoonplug rod destroyer for details.

We had some questions for Gino at the meeting. Politically correct? Maybe not

FIND YOUR DREAM MUSKY

ASK GINO



Gino – Do I really have to troll the bars to find the one of my dreams?

You don troll jus eny ba – YOU TROLL da BES BA and fins da BES HUMP!

Gino – How do I find the best bars or know what a good hump is?

You godda do sum homework to fine da bes bas and humps. You knos a good hump when you ge one!

Gino – What kind of homework?

Bucks da guy! Read da book, practis an yus will getsum like nevah before. Sum won be yuh dream an godda led hm go.

Gino – I don't want to hurt the ones not up to my standards. What do I do?

Bes ting is play him quick, enjoy da fun, don handl much, an le him go immediamente.

Gino – Can I still attract the one of my dreams when my lure has bite marks and scratches or is not as big as others?

It is not abo da lure, it is abo how deep (when n where) and da spee you move it to ge da one of your dreams. See yus on da water!

Next outing – Madison Chain – November 22nd - ? (Deer season opening)

Oops! *This article was meant to be in the last newsletter. My bad.*

Fishing Northern Wisconsin Waters Where Trolling is Not Allowed – Rick Matus

For many years, prior to spoonplugging my brother in-law and I would go up to Northern WI (Minocqua area) in the fall to do some Musky and walleye fishing. We still make the annual trip up there but have applied spoonplugging knowledge and mapping and interpretation techniques to increase our knowledge of what is actually out there on the lakes we fish... even though motor trolling is not allowed in this part of Wisconsin (except the flowages).

How can we really know what is out there on any body of water?...Buck gave us guidelines to find structure, breaks and break lines. We could not put a lure down there so we checked these areas using our electronics. We took 15 to 20 minutes to run the boat in and around structure situations to take soundings to determine primary, secondary and base break lines, perform straight line passes and identify any visible breaks. These mapping and interpretation guidelines gave us much more information as to how the fish may be using these areas.

Lake Minocqua/ Stacks Bay - Weed beds are structure....

Prior to spoonplugging our approach would be to go to the outside edge of the weed line (11 fow) anchor and cast for walleyes- live bait was usually used. We took 15 minutes to map the weed bed; the breaks and break

lines showed us an inside weed edge, submergent weeds and a turn in the outside edge of the weed line. This led us to check these potential areas on the cast. Casting the inside weed edge did not produce any results but casting crankbaits over the submergent weeds produced LMB. Similarly, anchoring at the turn in the weed line produced more fish as the bass seemed to be more concentrated in that area of the weeds and, when the walleye got active there were more numbers caught- they seemed to pause at the turn.

Little Arbor Vitae - Breaks on bars and humps...

Prior to spoonplugging the two bars on the lake we fished would be worked over by dragging live sucker rigs over the side of the boat and casting our lures/ baits around the inside edges and tips of the structures. In 20 minutes of mapping we identified breaks (hard boulder/ rocks) on portions of the top of one bar and a finger off one side of one of the bars. These areas are always checked on the cast now. The hard boulder/ rocky areas on top of the bar produce SMB. The finger off the other bar produces musky and walleye.

A politically correct contribution from Jim Duplex. A Joe Fabian sent me an email with this quote:

"Grant me the serenity to accept the size of the fish I catch, the courage to not lie about it, and the wisdom to know no one would believe me anyway."

Loose Reel

Here is a permanent repair using epoxy putty such as Starbrite or JB Weld sold at most hardware stores.

- 1) Apply a little grease or petroleum jelly on reel base
- 2) Place epoxy in the end reel seat socket
- 3) Install reel w/o fully tightening to the max
- 4) Before fully hardened remove reel
- 5) Trim excess epoxy putty and let cure completely.



Member resources - I thought it might be helpful a list for members to consult or seek others help would be useful. Below is a draft. Please send your suggestions and edits.

Mapping (By the book on paper) – Jim Duplex, Phil Szafranski, Rick Matus

Illinois Lakes

- Bangs Lake – Brett Christensen, Bob Roels
- Braidwood - Bink
- Chain-O-Lakes – Scott Duff
- Clinton – Jim Shell, Bob Roels
- Coffeen – Jim Shell, Jerry Hein, Frank Cipria
- Crab Orchard – Jim Shell
- Kinkaid – Phil Szafranski, Scott Duff
- Heidecke – Jim Duplex, Blnk, Jerry Hein, Phil Szafranski
- La Salle – Bink, Scott Duff
- Lake of Egypt – Jim Shell
- Lake Michigan Salmon (Northpoint and Waukegan) – Bob Roels, Wayne Dylo

Long Lake – Phil Szafranski
Loon (East and West) – Jim Duplex, Phil Szafranski
Newton – Scott Duff, Phil Szafranski
Round Lake – Phil Szafranski
Sangchris – Jim Shell, Bob Roels
Shabbona – Jim Duplex, Jerry Hein
Shelbyville – Jim Shell, Joe Zaremba

Indiana Lakes

Webster Chain – Jerry Hein

Michigan Lakes

Detroit River – Jim Shell
Lake Erie – Frank Yavarski
Paw Paw – Frank Yavarski

Wisconsin Lakes

Beulah – Brett Christensen, Bob Roels
Bohners – Jim Duplex, Phil Szafranski
Green Bay – Frank Yavarski, Jim Shell
Kegonsa – Jim Duplex
Lake Geneva – Brett Christensen, Jim Duplex, Bob Roels
Lake Wisconsin – Bob Roels, Jim Shell, Wayne Dyllo
Little Muskego – Joe Zaremba, Jim Duplex, Bob Roels
Mendota – Jim Shell, Bob Roels, Jim Duplex
Monona – Jim Duplex, Jim Shell, Bob Roels
Petenwell – Jim Shell, Bob Roels
Phantom – Brett Christensen, Bob Roels
Powers Lake – Brett Christensen
Waubesa – Jim Duplex, Rick Matus, Jerry Hein, Phil Szafranski, Frank Cipria
Whitewater – Jim Duplex, Frank Cipria, Bob Roels
Wind – Phil Szafranski

Other Lakes

Chickamauga, TN – Jim Shell, Bob Roels
Lake Barkley, KY – Jim Duplex, Phil Szafranski
Kentucky Lake, KY – Jim Duplex, Joe Zaremba, Bob Roels
Reedy Lake, FL – Bob Roels

Other stuff

Penn Reel Repair – Bob Roels
Rod building and repair – Gino Testone, Bob Roels
Custom Musky Lures and Blades – Gino Testone
Do-it Molds – Tail spinners, Sea Horse jigs, , Blades, and Vibrato imitation. Lead-spoons I am not happy with the spoons.

2014 Club Calendar

October 11 - Buck Perry Memorial Outing, Taylorsville, NC, Contacts: Terry O'Malley 828-855-0746 and Jeri Perry 828-632-8058 buckperry90@gmail.com
November 13 - Club meeting, Elk Grove Library
December 11 - Christmas Party, Giordanos, Westchester

Spoonplugger Resources

Equipment/materials	Supplier	Contact
Quarterly newsletter, videos, spoonplugging guides	National Spoonpluggers of America	http://nsoa.info/
Book, home study guide, spoonplugs, No-bo line, and rod	Buck's Baits Inc, www.buckperry.com PO Box 66, Hickory, NC 28603	Scott Jenkins, 828-428-4650 scottjenkins@bellsouth.net
Blades, and JB's	Johnny B's, John Bales	http://johnnyb-lures.com/
Plug Knocker	Jerry Borst	jborst@joltmail.com
Custom Spoonplug rods	Mike Beck	Mwbeck54@gmail.com , 612-716-2265
Videos	Spoonplugger films	Stephen Gillian
	Structure Fishing	Jim Shell, http://structurefishing.com/ jshell@structurefishing.com

Spoonplugging Instructors

John Bales - johnspoon@embarqmail.com
Jerry Borst - jborst@joltmail.com
Dennis Coulardot - coular@peoplepc.com
Chase Klinesteker - ckspoonpl1@aol.com
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