



NORTHERN INDIANA SPOONPLUGGER

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The last meeting was held May 20, 2013 at the Kendallville Public Library with 16 members and guests present.

President Denny reported that northern pike are beginning to become active for the season. Pike season can usually be determined as being in full swing in the Midwest at the same time the cottonwood trees are loosing their "cotton" (which gathers on our lines when trolling and drives everyone crazy!)

Most lakes are still pretty clear, however, algae blooms should be firing up before long with the warmer temperature returning following a relatively cold spring. Lake temperatures are presently 67-70 degrees in most area lakes

Denny also reported that with the warmer temperatures, there is little need for using 3-way rigs on the troll. Trolling Spoonplugs by themselves will do the trick. In addition, Denny reported a 49 inch muskie was recently caught on a local lake.

Bluegills were reported beginning their spawn on many lakes....mostly the smaller lakes since the larger lakes take extra time to warm up but by the time you read this, they will probably be all done in the smaller lakes and well underway in the larger ones.

There was also discussion on lakes that have north-erns and walleyes also seem to have BIG bluegills as well. Perhaps the predatory nature of the north-erns and walleyes keep the competition down among the

prey fish, thereby leaving the bluegill that don't become breakfast or lunch get to grow large enough to avoid predation. That's pure speculation on my part, but, that's my story and I'm sticking with it!

John Bales gave a report on a recent fishing trip to Lake St Clair. 6 guys in three boats were able to boat 588 smallmouth up to 6 lbs during the 3-day outing. There were also a few walleye and a couple of very nice muskies caught. John bemoaned the fact that fishing the St Clair, Detroit River, and Lake Erie complex has one very important drawback: Fishing this area will spoil you to the point that coming home and fishing area lakes can be disappointing for several days afterwards. It's really is that good!

I just received an email from John Zaborny announcing the Leoni Outing in Jackson, Michigan June 18-24, 2013. If you've never been to this outing, it is well attended and always one of the best of the season. John and TJ always have first-class accommodations for everyone attending. Good fishing on lakes close to the site and you are only an hour away from the premier fishery of Detroit River/Lake Erie. In fact, You don't even have to leave the compound in order to fish as there is a well stocked pond right in the front yard! If you are interested in good fishing as well as a good time, this is the outing for you!

NEXT MEETING: June 17, 2013 at the Kendallville Public Library 6:30 P.M.

" KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS "

LEONI OUTING
Jackson, Michigan
June 18-24, 2013

HEY, THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN. LEONI OUTING WILL BE JUNE 18TH TO THE 24TH AT MY HOUSE AT 5441 E. MICHIGAN AVE, JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49201. MY NUMBER IS 517-414-3596.

BREAKFAST EVERY MORNING 5:30 AM TILL 7:00AM

DINNER EVERY NIGHT AT AROUND 5:30 PM

BULLSHIT EVERY NIGHT FROM 6:00 PM ON

FISH FRY AND BIG DINNER ON SATURDAY AT 6:00PM

MANY GIFTS TO BE GIVEN AWAY AFTER DINNER

MY QUANSIT HUT HAS BEEN COMPLETELY CONVERTED OVER TO A FOOD HOUSE, ELECTRIC, GAS AND WATER

EVEN A 10 FOOT DOUBLE SINK SO JOE CAN CUT UP HIS CABBAGE.

AS USUAL, THIS OUTING IS FREE, FREE ELECTRIC, FREE FOOD, FREE POP AND WATER, FREE BEER, FREE SHOWERS, FREE SHITTERS, FREE LAKE MAPS

FREE ADVICE, FREE FISH CLEANING STATION, ALL YOU GOT TO DO IS GET

HERE,WE HAVE FOUR GINNY HENS AND OVER 100 RABBITS RUNNING

AROUND FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT.

20 OR MORE LAKES WITHIN 12 MILES TO FISH, YOU CAN MAKE THE DETROIT RIVER IN AN HOUR.

LOTS OF CLEARER WATER, DEEP WEED LINES AND BIG FISH, WE HAVE EVERY SPECIES AVAILABLE.

WE EAT FISH AT OUR OUTING AND DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT CHOPPING OFF THERE HEADS. JOHN BALES SAID THEY QUIT GROWING WHEN THE HEADS ARE CHOPPED OFF, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

THIS YEAR IS SPECIAL LIKE EVERY YEAR, WE ARE ALL GETTING OLDER AND DYING OFF. SO ENJOY THESE OUTINGS WHILE YOU CAN

TAKE CARE, WE LOVE ALL OF YOU AND HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE

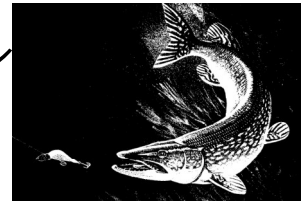
JOHN ZABORNY, LEONI SPOONPLUGGERS

“ KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS ”



Good Spoonplugging

By John Bales, Spoonplugging Instructor



I was watching the news tonight and someone said something that struck me funny. "Knowledge cannot be replaced by hard work!" Mr. Perry preached that knowledge is the key to success but it seems very clear that without the hard work, knowledge of any kind cannot be mastered.

Last week a long time Spoonplugger wrote a post on Spoonplugger.net and clearly reprimanded another Spoonplugger for some of the questionable statements he had made. Very gutsy on his part but he was just trying to tell this fellow that he may be on the wrong path. I liked his attitude and remarks because it tells the truth. The reason we can't chew someone out like that when it's needed is because if we do, there won't be anyone left!

Mr. Perry always said that Spoonplugging will never be fully accepted by the mass of fishermen. So here we are with 250 paid subscribers out of the millions of fishermen in this country. I guess he was right!

Back to the hard work. Is it really hard work? Yes it can be tiring. But are your results worth the time and effort that you have just put into it? If you are satisfied, then it is worth it.

Another comment that this man said was that we have it all in the green book and we do not listen. It is all written and all we need to do is follow directions and we will have success.

So if you are not getting the satisfaction you are wanting, maybe you should ask the question "why!"

If it seems like some of us (me) are too grouchy or too strict, it is because I want to see everyone have the same success as I do and get the same enjoyment. I stayed at a motel near Lake St.

Clair this past weekend and a black man started a conversation about fishing with his father. He commented that it's not all about the catching of the fish. Well, in a way, he is right but it really IS all about the catching of the fish. The reason we go fishing is to catch the fish..... period. The other good things that go with it go hand in hand and add to the enjoyment, but make no mistake...we go fishing to catch fish! When I hear someone say they just enjoy being out in the natural world, or they fish to bond with a loved ones, or they enjoy being on the water and seeing the beautiful lake homes or they enjoy fishing just to relax....I interpret that to mean they are having trouble catching fish. All those things can be attained without going fishing!

Our club is for you and I to learn. The Spoonplugger.net run by Jim Shell is for you and I to learn. The books and study material is for you to learn. The outings are there for you to go to and meet other Spoonpluggers that you can learn from. There is no reason that you cannot catch as many fish as you want. The information is out there. It's up to you to put in the effort.

Good Spoonplugging
John Bales

" KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS "



The more I learn, the more I see there is to learn.” E. L. “Buck” Perry

BUCK SEZ:

“My lake has a bottom completely covered with muck, moss or short grass. I can’t work my lures on the bottom. What do you suggest?”

As we stated earlier, if you **can’t** work the bottom, then you have to **work as close as you can**. This may present problems, but we can regulate our lure size and line length (on cast or troll) so that the lure “barely” skips the debris. If our gear is correct, most of the muck and grass can be “jerked” free, but the moss may be another story.

Many times we have been faced with a lake bottom such as yours. We have found we can regulate depth on the troll by lure size and line length. On the cast, we may have to go to a weedless type lure, but even here the muck and moss can foul it.

We normally work a lake of this nature first by trolling as close to the debris as possible so as to not be **continually** fouled. But all the time we’re looking for a clean spot or a hard spot. Most every lake of this nature will have some clean or hard spots. They may be few and far between, but they will exist. Our lures must tell us what type of bottom exists, or we would never find the areas we are looking for. We must find the more workable bottoms, for **that will be where the fish are**. Fish do not like to be on muck or soft bottoms, if the clean spot (break) is available. All of this means we get fouled quite a lot. But most of them can be quickly cleaned by a hard jerk or jerks, with the stiff rod and non-stretch line—with no time lost. The clean or hard bottom presents no problem on the cast.

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“Some place back in the study you said to look for the deep water ‘first’, and then look for the structure in relationship to this deep water. Then in this study you tell us to check the ‘shallows first’, before going deeper. This seems to be a contradiction.”

I believe if you go back and restudy what we said previously (under Structure, Breaks and Breaklines) you will find we were talking about **interpreting** a fishing situation, or **when studying a contour map**. The **first thing you do is locate the deep water**; then look for any structure in the area. It would be rather a waste of time to spend time looking for good structure on a contour map, and then find out there was no deep water in the area.

In this study of Presentation, we are talking about an entirely different thing. We’re talking about what area do we **“fish”** first.

“KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO FISHING SUCCESS ”