



# Northern Illinois Spoonpluggers

## Last Meeting Recap



The first meeting of the year was a success. The turnout was not great but the members had great discussions on the basics of spoonplugging and some of the mapping techniques used to present lures in an orderly and precise manner to simple structure situations we face all of the time in the many natural lakes and reservoirs in this region. Members discussed the tools it takes to do the job right. If we do not use the proper tools, casting and trolling, it is not likely we will arrive at the fish very often. If we discipline ourselves in these areas, our knowledge will grow as well as our catches.

**Next meeting will be held on May 1st 2012!**

Meetings will be held at the VFW in McHenry (3002 w IL Rt 120) the 1st Tuesday of every month 7:30pm - 9:00pm. April - November.

**Remember: Your photos and stories fuel this newsletter! If any members know of any potential spoonpluggers that might be interested in joining, invite them to a meeting. Remember, the more new members the better the education!**

**Please send fish pictures and stories to [william.spoonplugger.lorch@gmail.com](mailto:william.spoonplugger.lorch@gmail.com)**

### **New Members**

Bill Gearhart

Guy Rubino

Joseph Zaccaro

Bob Roels

### **Raffle**

Eight people were in attendance

Raffle Winners were:

Joe Zaccaro won a 100 series spoonplug

Bill Gearheart won a 200 series spoonplug

Guy Rubino won a 250 series spoonplug

Congratulations Guys!

## Catch from the Past

When working in Southern Illinois in 2009 Bill Lorch was able to fish some of the local cooling lakes and reservoirs. This particular cooling lake is Baldwin Lake. These largemouth bass were caught in mid-November and from their bellies, looked to be post spawn. After talking with some local fishermen at the dock, it seemed that nobody had been catching any Bass. Bill noticed the water color was dark yellow/green, the sky was cloudy, it was a little windy and the water temperatures were in the mid 70's. After looking at a contour map of the lake, Bill started out trolling a 400 series spoonplug on the rip rap shoreline between the water intake canal and the warm water discharge a 1/4 mile trolling pass bumping the rocks at 4-6 feet. The lure had not been in the water for more than a minute when he hit an



18" bass. He continued trolling and immediately popped another 20" bass. Ten fish over 18" were caught while trolling in this one particular area where the deepest water in the area was only 12'. Other areas in the lake had much deeper water but these areas were not producing fish. Shallow trolling located the fish. This area was probably over-looked by most because there is no water deeper than 12' and the area also appeared pretty flat. Buck Sez..."You gotta check it out!"

## Education

**The following is a passage from Buck Perry's Home Study Course: Tools and Controls.**

I'm sure if you were placed in a strange vehicle and told to go to a particular destination, you'd look the control board over and try to find out which one of the gadgets needed to be pushed or pulled before taking off.

If you were going to work on a complicated engine, you would desire "tools" to get the job done right. You could have all the training and know how, know what is wrong with the engine, know what you must do to fix it, BUT if you were handed "tools" that would not allow you to do the job most efficiently, then you'd likely wind up with a lousy repair job.

I prefer to speak of fishing gear as "tools." It makes no difference how much they cost, nor what style, size, or brand name. Our fishing gear is for one purpose only, and that **is to allow us to do the things we are trying to do**. Much too often the fisherman is controlled by his gear, not the reverse. Too often his gear is bought for reasons other than controlling his fishing in the best manner.

