

Arlington Anglers

Spring Cohos for Small Boaters

Bob Diebold
Arlington Anglers Fishing Club

When you think about Lake Michigan salmon, you immediately picture these large 35 foot fishing charters rigged with thousands of dollars of gear and electronics. It doesn't have to be that way according to Charter Captain,

Bob Bachler. Fishing for the tasty spring cohos can be done from the "normal" 16-21 foot fishing boats that we all have sitting on our driveways. **GENERAL:** In the spring, thousands of cohos roam the shallow waters from Wisconsin to Indiana. They'll be in the top 10 feet of water voraciously feeding on baitfish and insects. First try the warmer shallower water, from the shoreline out to 50 feet max.

SAFETY: You may have a small boat, but on good days, there should not be a problem. Listen to TV weather reports. West winds make for the calmest waters. Check wind/wave height forecasts on NOAA weather via your PC or cell phone. Don't forget your PFDs, horn, flares, and if possible your Marine Radio (or cell phone).

RODS and REELS: Trolling rods with level wind reels would be best but you could use your walleye or bass set ups (spinning or bait casting). Just have a good drag system. Your line could be mono, braid, or fluorocarbon and 8-15 pounds is more than enough for spring cohos.

LURE SET-UP: You can use small spoons and crank baits but the very best would be a small tinsel or peanut fly behind a red 0/0 dodger on a 5 foot leader behind a 5/8 oz keel sinker. You can ascertain hot lure colors from Lake-link.com, Chi-Town Angler, or Channel 68 on your Marine radio. Troll the lines using multiple yellow birds or planer boards out to the side. Run a long line down the middle without a board. Down-riggers are not necessary but dipsey divers provide an economical way to get lines down

and out away from the prop wash. 3 lines per person are allowed.

TROLLING TECHNIQUES: Start your trolling in an area where you see the charters. Once you think you're in a good area, troll north/south maintaining your depth. The best speeds are usually between 1.8 and 2.2 mph as shown on your GPS (speed over ground). If you get a fish while making a turn, that might indicate that your trolling speed needs to be adjusted. If it comes on an inside line adjust downward. If it comes on an outside line, adjust upward.

Bob Bachler is a retired fireman but now is the very successful owner of Battalion 1 Sport Fishing Charters out of Waukegan. He can be reached at 224-279-8080 or www.battalion1.com.

Dates to Remember:

May 31 – Event
Crabtree Kids Fishing Derby
(volunteers needed)

June 14 – Event
Take A Vet Fishing at Lake Waubesa (Madison WI)

June 16 – Meeting - Jim Crowley
IL Multi-Species Fishing and Hunting

June 24 – Outing
Lake Delavan

June 28 – Outing
Lauderdale Lakes

June 25-28 – Outing
Lake Erie

July 19 – Outing
LaSalle Lake



July 21 – Meeting - Greg Michela
Fishing the Fox Chain

Our Meetings

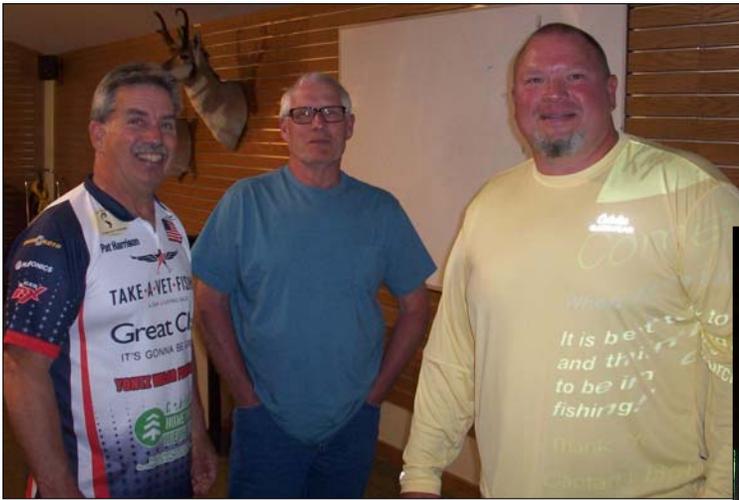
Come to one of our meetings to find out more about our club, activities, and outings.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 9:00 PM.. We meet at Cabela's which is located at 5225 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates, IL just off I-90 at Illinois Rt 59. Door prizes, speaker, raffles,

For further information call our President Tom Curtin at 312-560-9876 or visit our website at <http://www.arlingtonanglers.com>

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Arlington Anglers Pat Harrison and Bernie Harrison get spring Coho salmon tips from Charter Captain Bob Bachler (right).
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS



Arlington Angler Brian Stuart Sr. surprised everyone on the Clinton Lake Outing with this nice stringer of hybrid striped bass (and one white bass).
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS



Arlington Angler, Brian Stuart Jr. , shows off his large mouth bass caught on the Clinton Lake Outing on 5/16/15. Like father, like son.
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS



Olivia Goiten, age 4, hauls in a bluegill at Lake Atwood in Cary, IL. Her grandfather, Tom Curtin, had to handle the worms. Too bad he couldn't teach her to catch big ones.
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS