

Arlington Anglers

Bass Tactics for Geneva & Elsewhere



Bob Diebold

The Midwest continues to experience our bi-polar weather (snow, freeze, rain, melt, sun, snow, freeze, and so on). As a result, our more intelligent ice fishing buddies have stayed off the ice or headed way north into Wisconsin. The rest of us have been content to attend the string of Fishing and Outdoor Shows and listen to experienced guide, Ken Kuhnle, at the January Arlington Anglers meeting. Ken shared his proven bass tactics honed for Lake Geneva (but certainly could be used elsewhere).

Ken likes to set up light for the clear waters of Lake Geneva. He uses quality 6.5' to 7.5' medium light rods good for long sweep sets. His main line is usually 8-14# (Power Pro or Nanofil) and a six foot 6-10# fluorocarbon leader. He prefers a unique drop shot presentation for the bass using two #2 or #4 Gamakatsu drop shot hooks. The hooks are tied to the leader 1-2' apart using Palomar knots. Below the bottom hook, he ties a bell or dropper weight. The weight varies based wind and drift speed.

His bait preference is usually rubber worms and tries both wacky and nose hooked methods until a pattern develops. His favorite color is green pumpkin candy in the 4.5" or 5.5" lengths. In the early season, he'll also try some plastic minnow imitators.

It's not difficult to perfect an effective drop shot presentation. It's not a fast rip or dart but a subtle slight slow pull, stop, wiggle, stop, and repeat. The advantages of drop shotting are many: easy to fish deep/shallow with the same rig, functions well in a wind situation, keeps weeds off the hooks, etc. The presentation stays just above the weeds and appeals to those many spooky fish that are neutral to negative in attitude.

Ken Kuhnle is an experienced Bass Masters fisherman and guide who specializes in fishing Lake Delavan and Lake Geneva. He operates Fishing Tales Guide Service ((630) 732-5461 or FishingTalesGuideService.com and is very active in the Take A Vet Fishing Program.

The Club had a great Awards Banquet at *Jimmy's Charhouse* on Dec 11th. Multiple boxes of toys were collected for the Marines Toys for Tots Program.



Experienced guide, Ken Kuhnle, describes his effective wacky worm and drop shot methods for Lake Geneva bass at the January Meeting.
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS

2017 Officers:

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Big Fish Awards of \$25 each were given out in 13 categories. The 2016 Stafford Machas Angler of the Year Award (plaque and \$150) was also presented to Bob Diebold.

Dates to remember:

Feb 21 – Meeting

Lincoln Buchanan on Chain Walleye Tactics and Equipment

March 4 - Rolling Meadows Fishing Flea Market (Booth)

March 21 – Meeting

Speaker TBD

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 7:00 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, fishing reports: Give it a try!

For further information call our President Tom Curtin at 847-639-7858 or visit our website at

<http://arlingtonanglers.com>



President Tom Curtin (right) presents the 2016 Stafford Machas Angler of the Year Award to Bob Diebold