

# Tight Lines Newsletter

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[www.arlingtonanglers.com](http://www.arlingtonanglers.com)

## President's Note:

As expected, the fishing is starting to heat up all across the board. Spring brings fish bunched up closer to shore and somewhat easier to locate. Now is a great time to get on the water.

That wasn't exactly the case on our recent Shelbyville outing, but it wasn't bad either as that nice crappie I'm holding at right shows (while being photo bombed by past President Bert Saxon!). Check out the trip report on page 5.



There are still more new member profiles in this issue. I'm happy to see they all have boats and are looking for people to fish with. Get to know them.

Meeting attendance has been great this year and I expect the same this month. Be sure to arrive early to network with others and to find a good seat. Plus you won't want to miss our speaker or a chance to win the raffle grand prize.

See you all at the meeting on the 21st!

Chris Popp - President

Scheduled outings are always one of the best ways to get to know other club members better. But many are also taking advantage of meeting different anglers during club meetings and are going on side trips together. That's a big benefit of membership. If you reach out you will find others that like to do what you like to do. Be proactive!

## This Month's Speaker

What happens to former tournament anglers or TV & radio personalities and fishing authors when they hang up their professional careers? Some do some guiding but most fade away from the public eye and just enjoy fun fishing.

was all those things mentioned above, including and still a guide. But far from fading away he is still active sharing his advanced knowledge and experience with average anglers like us. His humble and approachable style makes for a compelling presentation regardless the topic. You won't want to miss Mike speak at our May meeting.

Our May speaker, Mike Norris,

## Key Dates

### Club Meetings

May 21  
Jun 18

### Outings

Mississippi Float  
May 22-24  
Carpfest 24.1  
Jun 23  
Big Green Lake  
Jun 25-28

### Comm Outreach

Explore the Forest  
Jun 2  
Busse Fish Derby  
Jun 15

# This Month's Speaker

## Arlington Anglers Fishing Club



Visit our website at: [www.arlingtonanglers.com](http://www.arlingtonanglers.com)

***Tuesday, May 21, 2024***

**Mike Norris**

### **Spring to Summer Transitions for SMB**



Mike Norris is a retired Chicagoland outdoor writer and radio show host who moved to Wisconsin in 2008 and set up a fishing guide business on Big Green Lake and other surrounding lakes in south central WI. He specializes in guiding for trophy SMB, northern pike, walleye and panfish during each of their seasonal peaks. Please help me in welcoming Mike back to the club!

**Club Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month Jan.- Nov.**

**Poplar Creek Banquets  
2354 W. Higgins Rd.  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169**

**Guests Welcome  
Fee \$3 members | \$8 non  
6:30 PM Start**

# May Raffle Grand Prize – Grandt Spinning Rod

Our May raffle Grand Prize is a Grandt All American Pro Series spinning rod valued at \$220!

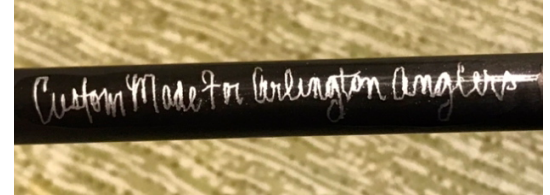


This awesome fishing tool is a 6'6" Medium Action 1 piece rod, customized for the Arlington Anglers. For finesse techniques you'll feel bites you've never felt before. For casting or jigging, it provides all the power you will need. Either way, this rod will improve your odds and bring you more angling success.

Five awesome consolation prizes will also be included to give you more chances to win big!

Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10.

Don't miss the May meeting for your chance to win a Grandt Rod!



## Steve's Fishing Report

By: Steve Jung



**May is a favorite month for many. Fishing seasons open for a variety of fish in WI and MN. Waters are warming which get all species active across the Midwest. That being said, lets get into it.**

**LAKEFRONT:** Navy pier is open for anglers from 05:00-10:00 for \$9. Perch season closes 6/15. Fish are still being caught in the harbors.

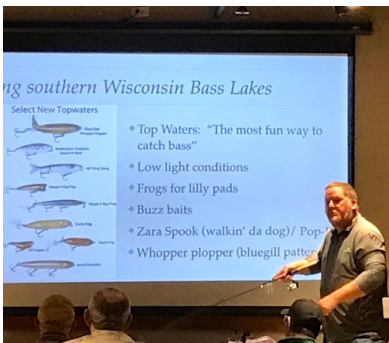
**FOX CHAIN:** White bass on soft plastics, minnows with either a small jig or under a float. Bass beginning to spawn. Soft plastics are a good choice, although don't rule out a good spinnerbait. Muskies are good trolling and casting minnow baits along w/rubber such as Medusas and Poseidons. Crappies are hit and miss with small plastics or minnows. Bluegill are everywhere with small plastics, red or leaf worms under a float.

**LAKE DELAVAN :** Bass on plastics with water temps in the mid 60's. Remember our speaker from a couple of months ago talking senkos. A key bait this time of year fishing shallow water. Panfish with small plastics, red or leaf worms under a cork.' Northern pike in the weeds with walleyes heading to the weedlines post spawn.

**LAKE GENEVA:** Water is cold but fish are being caught. Perch in 6'-10' on minnows, small plastics. Largemouth shallow on plastics, Smallmouth a little deeper in 15'-20'. Find the baitfish, find the bass.

**FOREST PRESERVES/AREA LAKES & PONDS:** Bass good on crankbaits, spinnerbaits, & plastics. Spawning varies dependent on size of the lake, but is happening all over. Bluegills and crappies great on plastics/minnows under a cork. Bluegills are next to spawn. If you want some real fun, try a fly rod for bluegills. You can thank me later.

## Last Month's Speaker Tips By Brian O'Connor



Nate Bergman, former President of the Rock Valley Anglers Fishing Club, gave a very lively and entertaining presentation on how to catch largemouth bass at local lakes within a 1 to 2 hour drive. He reminded us all that we don't need to drive long distances to name lakes to find largemouth bass. His tutorial focused on two main topics – what baits to use and his favorite local lakes in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

Nate provided insight into the four types of baits to catch bass, and his favorite brands to utilize therein:

- Topwater: Whopper Plover, Zara Spook
- Horizontal crankbaits and suspending baits: Rapala DT6, jerk baits, spinner baits when power fishing

- Bottom contacting baits: jigging spoons, ned rigs, finesse Texas rig

Nate's favorite Southern WI lakes to target: Lake Lorraine, Potter Lake, Rice Lake, Como Lake, Whitewater Lake, Pleasant Lake and Lake Beulah.

His go-to rod & reel set up for largemouth (which by the way is also his smallmouth and walleye setup) includes a 7ft Medium action fast or extra fast tip spinning rod, with a 2000 series (size 25) reel.

Nate uses 8-10lb Suffix 832 braid in hi-vis yellow, with an 8-10lb fluoro leader for nearly all applications. And he is a big believer in setting a tight drag for strong hook sets, while also utilizing the back-reel feature when fighting big fish.

## April Raffle Winners



Our April Grand Prize was a day on the water with our evening speaker, Nate Bergman. The experience will be priceless!

The thrilled winner was new member Bill Tillman pictured at far left with Nate Bergman.

Again because of a big turnout we added a bonus for a total of 6 consolation prizes worth \$175. Winners pictured at right in order were: Brian O'Connor (8' crappie rod), Dave Powell (set of 2 rod sleeves), Tom

Gransee (set of 3 shallow water bass lures), Larry Nolan (clamp on light), Pat Combs (4 pcks Brushpile crappie baits), and Steve Jung (Daiwa Crossfire LT2000 spin reel).

We also gave out 20 door prizes!



# Lake Shelbyville Outing Report

Our annual crappie trip to Lake Shelbyville took place from April 25-28. With 25 members attending Coordinator Bert Saxon (pictured top left) had his hands full but did a great job juggling beds, boats, and meals to the satisfaction of the enthusiastic crowd.

We once again stayed at the beautiful White Tail Crossings taking over 7 of their cabins. We had group dinners each night grilling burgers and brats the first night, feasted on Italian Beef and Sausage the second night, courtesy of Rich Sutton, and almost filled the back room at Tail Winds Restaurant for our final evening banquet. All 3 nights found the group lounging on the cabin patios enjoying each other's company, telling stories, and swatting away a massive June Bug attack.

The weather was challenging. While the rain came mostly at night the cool temps and high

winds made time on the water less than ideal. Regardless, all seemed prepared and endured.

The fishing was mixed. Many struggled finding crappies that were still deep, not having moved shallow yet to spawn. Others had decent success on drop shots with small plastics near riprap and stickups in 12-16 feet of water. One boat did have a 100 fish final day reeling 16<sup>th</sup> oz jigs with 2" plastics VERY slowly along the bottom. Most were small. No one was able to boat a limit this year.

Even so, it was a great time, as always, and all look forward to doing it again next year.



# Top 5 Reasons To Fish For Carp By: Chris Popp



Are you the type of angler that hasn't thought about carp fishing because they are considered trash fish? It's an unfortunate common opinion in the States but around the world they are valued as an esteemed species. The Arlington Anglers hold 2 outings targeting carp each year. Here are some of the reasons you should reconsider:

## **Carp are abundant**

Carp can be found in virtually every pond, river, and lake. That makes them a viable option no matter where you fish. You'll rarely look at a body of water and wonder if there are any carp swimming in it.



## **Carp are usually big fish**

Carp are relatively fast growing and can live a long time. Even in local ponds the average sized carp can run between 20 and 30 inches. And they can get even bigger! Most anglers that try for carp have a decent chance of landing the biggest fish they will catch all year long.



## **Carp are hard fighting**

During battle carp make strong runs and peel drag when first hooked. They aren't leapers but dig to the bottom and often run sideways parallel to the bank looking for cover. In streams they may head into the current trying for a fast get-a-way. And they have staying power. When you do get them close to shore they usually make a final surge to elude your net.



## **Carp fishing is possible with simple rigging**

While there are advanced techniques available to improve your odds, you can still have good success using simple rigs and bait. A medium or medium heavy powered rod, 10-15 pound mono line, some weight, a small hook, and bait of choice is all that's needed. Worms, kernels of corn, and bread dough balls are all good choices. Even French fries have been known to attract attention.

## **Carp are approachable for new anglers.**

Carp are usually located in areas that can be easily accessible when fishing from the shore. No fancy boats, electronics, or expensive rods and reels are needed. And the "feel" necessary to catch other game fish like bass and walleye isn't really necessary either, although it can be helpful. Carp often just grab and go. So it's important to secure your rod to keep it from flying off into the water when a fish hits.

All this isn't to say that carp fishing is always easy. Fishing is fishing and catching is another thing. Carp can be very wary predators. For optimal success, just like for any species of fish, details matter. Regardless, there are usually a few biters even when using the simplest of rigs. And it can provide a very relaxing day on the bank enjoying nature. Give it a try!

# Getting to Know More New 2024 Club Members



**Kent Nepras** currently lives in Warrenville with his wife Sue. They have 2 kids. His son Ray was on the Mizzou fishing team.

Kent is retired. He previously was a Senior Project Manager in the construction industry.

Kent has a Tracker 160 with a 40 HP motor he trailers to be ready to go whenever possible.

Kent considers himself mainly a bass fisherman but he also likes to fish for northern pike and walleyes.

Kent joined the club to meet other fisherman and hopes to learn some new fishing techniques to help him add to his success.



**Jim Lewinski** lives in Glen Ellyn. He isn't married but does have a significant other.

Jim is retired. He previously owned and ran a trucking company, which he has since sold.

Jim has a 2018 Tracker Pro Guide 175 with a 150 HP motor, which is always ready to go when the opportunity arises.

Jim prefers fishing for crappies and walleyes when he can. He also likes to get out on Lake Michigan to chase salmon.

Jim joined the club after a fellow Salmon Unlimited club member advised him of what we have to offer. He was looking for a club that did different kinds of fishing so he decided to give it a try.



**Glenn Haymes** resides in Mundelein with his wife Pat. Glenn has 3 kids, 5 grandkids and 2 great grand children!

Glenn is retired from the moving and storage industry. He's started a second part time career making and selling fishing lures.

Glenn has a 15 foot fishing boat

with a 45 HP motor that he trailers and is ready to travel.

Glenn enjoys fishing for whatever is biting that day. He doesn't have a preference. He just likes getting out.

Glenn joined the club to meet other like minded fisherman that he can possibly fish with.

# Big Fish of the Month



**Big Fish of the Month** goes to Henry Comp for this 40" Pike. He was fishing Bay de Noc with a few other club members looking for big spawning smallmouth.

They were having good success tossing 4" swim baits when this bonus predator decided to join the party. A bit of luck was necessary as Henry had only an 8# flouro leader on the business end. Fortunately it was hooked just right.

## Honorable Mention #1



First honorable mention goes to Tom Gransee for this nice 37" Muskie.

Tom was fishing on Kinkaid Lake near Murphysboro, one that many muskie anglers frequent when they want to chase their favorite quarry while staying in Illinois waters.

# Kid Fish of the Month

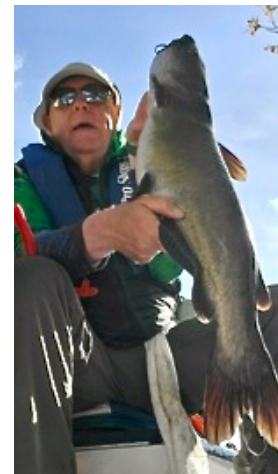


**Kid Fish of the Month** goes to Junior Arlington Angler "Goose" Henderson (at right) and his partner Logan. They were fishing as a Unified High School team out of Wauconda where they qualified from Sectionals to compete in the Illinois HS State tournament Finals.

Good luck guys!

Please share your passion for fishing with a child. Whether it's a relative, a friend, or a neighbor, submit a picture when you do!

## Honorable Mention #2

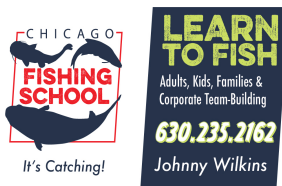


Second Honorable Mention goes to Peter Laugalis for this 28" Channel Cat caught on the Fox chain. Peter was casting 2" twister tails with only 4# line for crappie when this surprise intruder hit.

# Sponsor Page - Please support those that support us



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## M&G Propeller

# Member Discount Partners

Being a member of the Arlington Anglers comes with many benefits. Following is a list of sponsors that offer discounts to our members with their membership card. Be aware, some manufacturers do not allow discounts by their dealers. Also, discount percentages could change at any time, at our partner's discretion.



## **GRANDT RODS**

GRANDT INDUSTRIES INC.,  
PO box 772 Arlington Heights, IL. 60006  
847-577-0848 Jim Grandt  
Website: grandtrods.com

Discount: 20% off internet rod prices, plus free hat (while in stock). Free pickup in Arlington Heights.  
Also, any Pflueger reel in stock can be purchased to create a combo at \$15 off internet retail price.  
**(Must show membership card at pickup).**



## **ANGLERS INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES**

1272 E. Dundee Rd. Palatine IL 60074  
847-991-3200  
Website: FishinGurus.com  
Discount: 10% on tackle & bait



## **LEE'S BAIT AND TACKLE (2 Locations)**

1010 East Higgins Rd, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007  
847-593-6424  
1400 W. Army Trail Rd., Carol Stream, IL. 60188  
630-830-5337  
Website: Leesglobaltackle.com  
Discount: 10% min. on tackle, depending on mfg.



## **Fish Tech**

5802 Dempster St. Morton Grove IL 60053  
847-966-5900  
Website: [fishtechmg.com](http://fishtechmg.com)  
Discount: 10% off tackle and bait



## **LiveBaitFishingTackle.com**

Online or 630-235-2162  
Discount: 15% off floats, line, tackle, rods, reels & bait.  
Use code "arlington" at checkout. Also, 15% off lessons, classes, and guiding at [Chicagofishingschool.com](http://Chicagofishingschool.com).



## **Battery Service Corporation**

410 S. Evergreen St. Bensenville, IL. 60106  
630-595-4244  
Website: [batteryservice.com](http://batteryservice.com)  
Discount: Dealer prices with card



## **Catch Co.**

[www.catchco.com](http://www.catchco.com)  
Discount Site: [www.shopkarls.com](http://www.shopkarls.com)  
Discount: \$10 off a minimum \$25 purchase  
Use Promo code ARLANG10

**M&G Propeller**

## **M&G Propeller**

217 Sola Dr. Gilberts, IL 60136  
847-551-9281  
Discount: 10% off prop repair services

# Renew Your Membership or Join The Club

Yearly dues are the financial life-blood of our club. They pay our speakers, insurance, shows, pizza party, and other operating expenses. Presently, our annual family membership is \$40.00. Please renew or join today!

We've now added Zelle quick pay to our options: ([arlangfc19@gmail.com](mailto:arlangfc19@gmail.com)). So, 3 ways to pay: (1)Zelle, (2)at a meeting, or (3)check by mail. New members - use the form below or visit our "Join Our Club" web page.

**Bring checks made out to "Arlington Anglers" to a meeting or mail to:**

Arlington Anglers  
C/O Rich Sutton  
719 W. Catino St.  
Arlington Hts., IL 60005



**We're on the Web!**

[www.arlingtonanglers.com](http://www.arlingtonanglers.com)

or

**QR Code (to the right)**

or

**FACEBOOK at: Arlington Anglers**



Renewing members need only provide Date and Name.

Fill out completely and mail with your check.

Today's Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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