

Tight Lines Newsletter

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www.arlingtonanglers.com

President's Note:

Rivers are special. Unlike lakes where you usually target the fish you want, the same bait can catch any number of species in a river. You never know what you'll get. See the Best Dam Float report to read about 14 species we landed, such as the Lake Sturgeon at right.



If you've never been in another fishing club before you may not realize how unique ours is. The feedback I get about some clubs is that they talk about fishing but don't do much fishing, at least not together. We do a lot of stuff! And we get pretty decent participation as you can see by the reports in this newsletter every month. When we get 10-20+% of our 110+ members attending virtually every one of our dozen+ events, that's an active group. Take advantage and join in on every opportunity when you can. That's what makes being a member so much fun!

Our family picnic is scheduled for Aug 20 and replaces our general meeting. Get it on your calendar! Let's try to beat the 75 attendees we had last year.

While you may get busy this Summer make sure you carve out time for our monthly meeting. There is still a lot to learn. 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 18th!

Chris Popp - President

This Month's Speaker

Everyone likes to take a big fishing trip when they get the chance. It's usually a great adventure to a far off place. However, although many don't believe it, there is also great fishing close to home that is perfect for day trips, a morning, or a couple hours after work.

Environmental pros are a big reason for the great assets we have nearby. Mike Feldmann, a biologist with the Cook County Forest Preserve, works every day to provide quality local opportunities. Mike will be sharing the programs and projects he and other staff engage in to make your daily outings a successful and fun time.

Key Dates

Club Meetings

Jun 18
Jul 16

Outings

Carpfest 24.1

Jun 23

Big Green Lake

Jun 25-28

Lake Geneva

Jul 10

Comm Outreach

SRACLC

Jul 24

Club Picnic

Aug 20

This Month's Speaker

Arlington Anglers Fishing Club



Visit our website at: www.arlingtonanglers.com

Tuesday June 18, 2024

Mike Feldmann

Fisheries and Lake Management



Mike Feldmann is a Fisheries Biologist for the Cook County Forest Preserve. He has been with the county for 10 years, and is excited to share his knowledge with the group tonight. His program will focus on the projects he works on daily, as well as the challenges of managing urban lakes. Help me in welcoming Mike to the club!

Club Meetings are on the 3rd 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**

June Raffle Grand Prize – St. Croix Rod

Our June raffle Grand Prize is a St. Croix Premier spinning rod valued at over \$170!

This exceptional stick is a two piece spinning rod that is 6'6" long with Medium Power and Fast Action. St. Croix Premier Series rods are well known for their extra sensitivity and high strength. This makes it a very versatile tool for both finesse and power techniques.

The two piece design also makes traveling with it easier while still maintaining fishing performance.

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

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

Don't miss the June meeting for your chance to win a St. Croix Premier Series fishing rod!



Steve's Fishing Report

By: Steve Jung

The weather has been very erratic all across the Midwest but the fish are eating.

LAKEFRONT: Smallmouth bass, northern pike, and sheepshead are being caught in the harbors.

FOX CHAIN: Bass- wacky senko is a great option around docks and along shorelines. SMB are starting to show up. Muskies- a recent tournament provided several in the 30-40" range. A variety of baits provided the action. Crappies are hit and miss with small plastics or minnows. BGs in back waters with small plastics, red or leaf worms under a cork. Walleyes found trolling flicker shads 4-7'.

LAKE DELAVAN: Largemouth on wacky senkos and Texas rigged worms. Remember our speaker from a couple of months ago talking senkos. The wacky senko is an absolute fish magnet. Learn how to use it. Panfish with small plastics, red or leaf worms under a cork. Bluegills are spawning.

LAKE GENEVA: SMB in 10'-12' on jig/plastics or a nightcrawler. BGs near docks w/worms under corks. Find LMB shallow with plastics or senkos as great options.

FOREST PRESERVES/AREA

LAKES: Bass on chatterbaits and jig/plastics on outside edge of primary weedlines. Also try spinnerbaits, ned rigs, wacky senkos and slow topwater baits.

FOX RIVER: Wade with caution. Flow rates have been fluctuating with recent rains. SMB are good with a ned rig and blade baits. Find Panfish in the back waters.

Speaking of panfish, a 34" muskie and a 43 pound flathead were recently caught on live BGs on the Fox and Kankakee respectively.

NORTHERN WISC.: Water temps 61-67. SMB & LMB staging along shorelines. Try topwater, senkos, jigs/plastics and swim jigs. Pike hitting chatterbaits. Crappie are shallow on minnows under floats.

HOT TIP: Twitch a small dark floating popper on a fly rod to emulate a cicada. All species are munching on these easy meals.



Last Month's Speaker Tips By Brian O'Connor



There are two fishing seasons according to Mike Norris, Spawning Season & Feeding Season. Largemouth generally spawn in 2'-5', while smallmouth tend to spawn in up to 8 or even 12 fow. After the spawn, SMB move out to secondary locations in 8-13fow to any rock piles they can find to gorge on crayfish. Then in late July in the heat of the summer, Mike will go out to the cooler water of deeper weed edges and cribs to target the bass he is chasing.

Finding weed lines in the summer is key to finding bass, as they will ultimately always be chasing food this time of year. And because minnows and smaller fish will always relate to weeds for protection and cover, the bass will never be far behind. Mike suggested that it may be easier to find those weeds by finding areas

that don't have high boat traffic, where props aren't sucking in and breaking off the very leaves and vegetation that smaller fish relate to. He utilized maps of big Green Lake in WI (where he guides on a daily basis) to illustrate to the Club which areas these would be.

Transitions for bass during these periods have them moving from the spawn to crayfish hunting as noted above, and then onto bluegill & perch by mid-summer for the remainder of the warm water period. Smallies are turned on by perch clouds in the summer, so Mike will drive around looking for said clouds to mark a waypoint and take his time to pick them apart. Mike will even put baits in his sink at home to see how they stand up and float in the water, to have an idea of how they should be presented to the bass he's targeting.

May Raffle Winners

Our May raffle Grand Prize was a 6'6" Medium action Grandt All American Series spinning rod valued at over \$220!

The excited winner was brand new junior member Kevin Kinnane, who was attending his first meeting with his dad, Pat. Kevin is pictured at left with Grandt Pro Staffer Bert Saxon.

5 consolation prizes worth almost \$200 were also handed out. Winners, at right in order, were: Phil Fors (Camp Chair),

Mike Sanofsky (Arctic Zone Cooler), John Gacki (BPS auto/manual life vest), Guest Andrew Tillman (Multi-tool), and Larry Liebert (set of 3 assorted bass topwater lures).

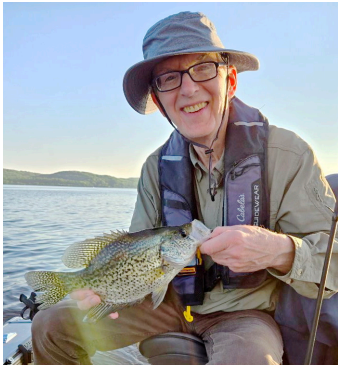
We also gave out 16 door prizes!



Lake Wisconsin Outing Report By: Chris Popp



Our annual outing to Lake Wisconsin took place from May 16-19. There were 16 members that took part in all or some of the days' action. Most stayed at Bowar's Lakeside Resort (aka Lake Wisconsin Resort) where we had 2 cabins reserved. Some others camped and 2 came up to join us just for a day.



The weather cooperated except for a brief down pour on the first day. Otherwise mild temps and light breezes made for very comfortable fishing.



For the most part the fish cooperated too. While not hand over fist most boats had at least 20+ total fish days. The Burnitz brothers, Ron and Jim, were the keeper walleye kings getting theirs with a jig and minnow under the "trestle". The trio of Greg Keller, Bob Briant, and Eyrle Hilton got theirs trolling the river mouth in 8-10 feet of water with Shad Raps.

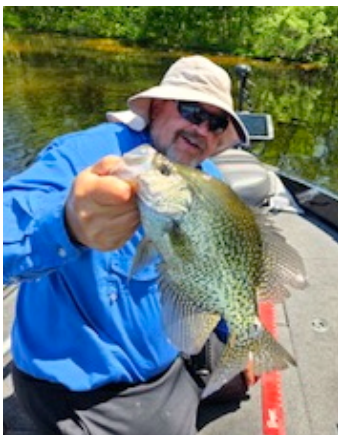
Big 11-14" crappies were also biting near riprap and brush. The teams of McCoy/Diebold

and Popp/Suelzer picked up about 30 slabs each.

The duos of Surico/Steffan and Olivet/Janes brought in tons of Sauger, unfortunately most on the smaller side. And, of course, the Drum were on pretty much everyone's menu.

On the last day Popp & Suelzer switched gears and caught over a dozen feisty smallies along shoreline rock piles and blow downs.

On Friday night we docked the boats at Fitz's On the Lake to enjoy their awesome fish fry. The other 2 nights we grilled dinner by the cabins. A roaring campfire finished each evening.



Best Dam Float Outing Report By: Kristie Powell



May found 9 of our members on our Best Dam Fishing Float outing in LaCrosse WI. While the weather on Wednesday driving up was windy, the weather on Thursday was great! Eyrle Hilton, Dar and Frank Mucci, Don and Ronda Taylor, Ron Cappello, Chris Popp and Garland and myself had a fun day fishing. Every bite was a surprise as we caught 14 different species during the day!



Don Taylor, after a fight with 6lb test, brought in a beautiful Lake Sturgeon of 55 inches and 45 pounds (see BFotM)! Ron Cappello fought the valiant fight to bring in his monster but unfortunately after almost an hour it broke off. Whatever he was fighting was huge! Dar and Frank were cleaning up with assorted fish. Frank also caught a big sturgeon. Eyrle caught his best ones after he would ask us to watch his pole and walked away. Might be a new way to catch fish! Ronda kept pulling them in: rock bass, sturgeon,

drum, bluegill, LMB, and a nice 20" Walleye which she let go.

Garland caught a dogfish, sheepshead, and a nice crappie besides others. Me, I caught a sturgeon and a 35" Needlenose Gar that wrapped his beak with a lot of my braid! Thanks to my Italian fish handler with the death grip, Ron! Chris Popp caught a wide assortment of fish including a very nice sturgeon and sheepshead. Chris went back on Friday after we all left to catch some more, including a nice 29" flathead catfish.

We had a great time sitting by the fireplace at night discussing our next plan of attack. Two nights at the North Country Steak buffet adequately satisfied our hunger needs.

Check out the photos in this issue. There are some great fish caught by great fishermen!

Next Barge trip is tentative planned for October 16-18. Put it on your calendar!



Community Outreach – Explore the Forest By: Pat Trunda



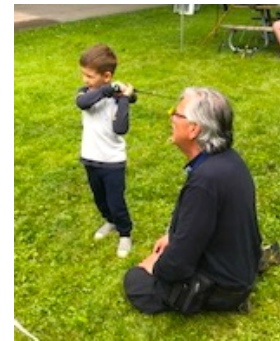
The Crabtree Nature Center of the Cook County Forest Preserve District held its annual “Explore the Forest” outing on Sunday, June 2nd. Crabtree Nature Center wants to show off the many activities the community can do and get involved with nature.

A big Thank You to the members who volunteered their time and skills to make the casting station a big hit.

Members who volunteered were: Ron Cappello, Ernie Clements, Chris Popp, Kristie and Gar Powell, Ronda Taylor, and Pat Trunda.



Some of the activities included guided nature hikes, bird encounters, wildlife interactions, and tree cookie paintings to name a few. The Arlington Anglers Fishing Club participated again this year showing kids from 2 to 92 on how to cast a fishing rod and reel.



7 members used their patience to teach casting skills on a one on one interaction. It took some time but everyone who visited were able to cast in a straight line and keep the practice lure out of the trees. There were an estimated 100 visitors who wanted to learn how to cast!



Big Fish of the Month



Big Fish of the Month goes to Don Taylor for his 55 inch, 40+ pound Lake Sturgeon. Crazy!

Don was on the club's Best Dam Float outing on the Mississippi River. A number of sturgeon of various sizes were being caught, as were over a dozen other species, on nightcrawlers fished on the bottom.

Don was lucky during his 20 minute battle before netting the fish as he only had on 6# test line.

Kid Fish of the Month



Kid Fish of the Month goes again to Junior Arlington Angler Robbie "Goose" Henderson (far left) and his partner Logan. They completed their journey winning the Illinois HS State Bass Championship in the Unified Division, a section for Special Olympics qualified participants.

Congratulations guys. A very memorable achievement!

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 #1



First honorable mention goes to Darlene Mucci for her 18.5 inch White bass. Wow!

Dar was back fishing again on the Best Dam Float 2 weeks after our outing. This time the White Bass where in, this one the biggest of several she caught using husband/member Frank's homemade double rigs.

Honorable Mention #2

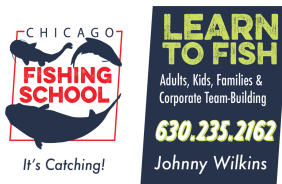


Second Honorable Mention goes to Chris Popp for this 29" Flathead Cat caught on the Mississippi River, also at the Best Dam Float. Chris was fishing a bottom rig with pieces of crawler when he caught his best of the day.

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
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.



Battery Service Corporation

410 S. Evergreen St. Bensenville, IL. 60106
630-595-4244
Website: batteryservice.com
Discount: Dealer prices with card



Catch Co.

www.catchco.com
Discount Site: 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). 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
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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