

Tight Lines Newsletter

www.arlingtonanglers.com

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President's Note:

Last issue I mentioned that June was going to be a hectic month for Arlington Anglers activities, It sure didn't disappoint! Lots of reports and pictures of happy members are included in this edition, including me at right with my first ever tiger muskie. Not a monster but stunning all the same. And from a kayak, no less! Please read what your fellow members are up to and enjoy the reports. And join in next time we have an event. They're fun!

Our **annual club picnic** will take place on Tuesday evening, August 19, at the Plum Grove Pavilion in the Harper College complex. It's the same night as our typical meetings, so no reason to miss it. Put it on your calendar now! We'll be grilling burgers, brats and dogs, with all the sides and trimmings. Adults will be \$10 with kids free. Plan on bringing the whole family! More details will follow to members by email.



While you likely have many options to occupy your summer days don't miss our July meeting. We still have great speaker content ahead and member fishing reports will be more valuable than ever to increase your knowledge and success during these dog days.

As always, get to the meeting early to register and network with others. Catching up and sharing information is a big part of being a member.

See you all Tuesday the 15th!

Chris Popp - President

Key Dates

Club Meetings

Jul 15
Sep 16

Club Picnic

Aug 19

Outings

Lake Cosman
Jul 20
Lake Geneva
Jul 24

Comm. Outreach

SRCLC
Jul 23

This Month's Speaker

The relatively easy pickings of Spring, where most fish are shallow, has given way to more consistent Summer patterns. But what are those patterns? Where do all the fish go? Many find it difficult to locate and catch fish as the dog days progress.

Ken Kuhnle is an experienced multi species angler, part time guide, radio show host, and all-around knowledgeable fisherman. Along with his own exploits, and adding those of his show guests, he has a treasure trove of tactics to share to catch game fish in the hot months.

This Month's Speaker

Arlington Anglers Fishing Club



Visit our website at: www.arlingtonanglers.com

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Ken Kuhnle

Summer Gamefish Tactics



Ken Kuhnle is the owner and operator of Fishing Tales Guide Service, specializing in Lake Geneva and other Southern WI lakes. As an original board of director for Take a Vet Fishing, host of "The Big Outdoor Show" on WBIG, and former President of the Fox Valley Anglers, Ken has vast experience in the angling world. Tonight he will share his favorite summer tactics with us. Please join me in welcoming Ken back 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**

July Raffle Grand Prize – St Croix Spin combo

The logo for Black Bass, featuring the words "BLACK BASS" in a stylized, bold, italicized font with a black outline.

Our July raffle Grand Prize will be a two piece St Croix Black Bass series 7'1" Medium power Fast action spinning rod paired with a Diawa Crossfire reel, retailing at over \$220!

drag and smooth retrieve.

Five awesome consolation prizes worth another \$275+ will also be included in the raffle to give you even more chances to win big!

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

Be sure to attend the July meeting for your chance to win one of these great prizes.

The Diawa logo, featuring a stylized, bold, italicized font with a black outline.

This is one of St. Croix's newest series that's perfect for a variety of both finesse and power fishing in a portable package. The Diawa reel offers a reliable

Steve's Fishing Report By: Steve Jung

Many lakes have very warm water in the mid-80's. Try rivers for a change of pace. Recent rains have created more current and deeper pools which will hold some nice fish. If lakes are your option, remember what Buck Perry said, "Deep water is the home for most of the season for the majority of fish." Use your electronics.

CHICAGO LAKEFRONT: Perch season has reopened in mid-June and soft shells are the ticket. Smallmouth are also making their presence felt. Try blade baits, soft plastic, and crankbaits.

ON THE BIG POND: Kings, Coho, Steelhead, and Brown Trout are being taken trolling spoons. Best times seem to be early a.m.

FOX RIVER: Smallmouth bass are good in deeper holes and main channels. Plastics, blade baits, and crankbaits are all taking fish.

LOCAL LAKES & PONDS: Bass on crankbaits and plastics in the deep weeds and weedlines. Bluegill on red/leaf worms or small plastics under a float. A bonus opportunity is a small popper on a fly rod. Catfish on a variety of baits from chicken livers, hot dogs, and kielbasa mixed with garlic and strawberry kool-aid powder.

FOX CHAIN: Walleye on jig & crawler in 8'-10'. Catfish, bass, and bluegills are all eating. Best at light changes. Leave the muskies alone as the heat will stress them out.

DELAVAN: Pike and bass in deeper weeds on spinner baits.

LAKE GENEVA: Walleye on jig & crawler combo. Look for bait balls with your electronics. Game fish won't be too far away. BGs on red worms and small jig with plastics under a float in deeper water.



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



Mike Wollenberg came to speak to the AAFC on June 17th to present "Wading for Fox River Smallies". The Fox River flows 202 miles south from Colgate, WI to its junction with the Illinois River in Ottawa, IL. He listed plenty of favorite local dams to focus on from Elgin down to North Aurora.

According to Mike, the water is always shallower than you would think. It's ankle-to-knee deep in a lot of places, and if you find a slack water pool up to your waste (which is considered deep), absolutely stop and take time to fish it.

Reading water is a lost art. Fish face upstream, so fish the same way (upstream). Don't spend a lot of time casting downstream and fighting current with your retrieve.

When you cast upstream or quarter cast, you'd be surprised how fast SMB will chase when hungry...even if the current is fast at that time and moving your bait quickly. Look for hard rock bottoms when you can find them,

Mike prefers using stocking foot waders, and recommended to those new to wading to buy boots that are 2-3 sizes bigger than normal to ensure they fit over the stocking waders. His favorite plastics to use in the Fox are Keitech boot tails, Berkeley Ripple Shads, 3" Berkeley Power Grubs and Strike King Bitsy Tubes...while his favorite river crankbaits to use are the Rapala Floating Mino #7, the Rapala Shad Rap Shallow #5 and the Strike King Square Bill 1.0. Overall, Mike shared a lot of local knowledge on some fun & productive fishing that happens right here in Northern IL.



June Raffle Winners

Our June grand prize was a St. Croix Black Bass 6'10" medium power, fast action rod and Diawa Regal spinning combo worth over \$240! The excited winner was Mike Kic, pictured at far left with President Popp.

Five consolation prizes worth another \$300+ in total were also handed out!

Winners, pictured at right in order, were Frank Mucci (Coleman cooler), Jerry Tekien (Coleman 4 person tent), John

Gacki (Plano 3364 tackle bag), Gar Powell (Okuma spinning combo), and Mark Petras (Abu Garcia Vengeance bait casting combo).

We also gave out 20 door prizes.

Thanks to all for playing the game!



Lake Delavan Outing Report

By: Chris Popp



Lake Delavan was always on our radar. It had been several years since we were able to get a coordinator to bring this outing back. Rudy Vabalaitis finally took the reins to get it on the schedule for June 12. Unfortunately, this turned into a memorial outing of sorts as Rudy unexpectedly passed away a few days before.

With Rudy on our minds 23 members in 9 boats hit the water early. Reports were that the bass were on weed edges in 10-15 FOW, with Smallies moving deeper as the largemouth were moving shallower. Pike were also heavily on the prowl. Bluegills were to be sporadic.



Bass numbers weren't spectacular, with some struggling to find fish. Others did ok. Drop shot, ned rigs, and jig/paddletails were the most effective with a 19" LMB the biggest. Lots of pike (relatively speaking) were caught with a couple over 30". A few walleyes were added.

About 12:30 we all loaded up and headed to South Shore Bar and Grill for a group lunch. The conversation was lively & many members met others they didn't yet know. Overall, it was a fun outing, except for one missing member.



Round Lake Kayak Outing Report By: Peter Laugalis



The AAFC Kayak Klub hit Round Lake on June 19 for our second outing of the year. Rain threatened before our 7 AM launch but subsided in time leaving us with overcast skies and a light breeze, perfect for a day on this clear Round Lake Beach IL lake that most of the 6 members attending had never fished before.

Ray Suelzer was the king of numbers, wielding his fly rod to catch 30 bluegills, a couple bass, and hooking 4 carp under a mulberry tree, each breaking off his 4# leader. Two new 2025 club members joined the fun.



In all we caught about 20 bass (mostly small ones) on several techniques, some blue gills and perch, and a surprise tiger muskie by Chris Popp during the four hour outing. Lunch after at Mrs. V's helped satisfy the hunger we worked up after all the paddling.



Fox River Float Outing Report By: Peter Laugalis



On Sunday, June 29, three Arlington Anglers launched kayaks below the Algonquin dam for a relatively short 2 and a half hour float down the Fox River, to Buffalo Park, for the third leg of our Kayak Klub's summer kayak fishing tour. This time we were in search of smallmouth bass.



It's somewhat a shame that more didn't join in as it was a beautiful, although warm, leisurely day on the river. Unfortunately, that was all they missed. The smallies didn't cooperate too well. Even though the water was low the current was still moving at a decent clip. The fish weren't shallow. That meant casting to the channel from the river edges. Light weights meant bowed lines, making strike detection a challenge. The only success came from drifting the middle of the channel bouncing a ned rig on bottom close behind. It was still a fun time being out together for a few hours in a new environment!



Lake Cosman Carpfest 25.1 Report By: Chris Popp



If it's Summer that means it's time for Carpfest! For the last several years I have hosted the club at the lake in my townhouse association, for a morning of carp fishing, conversation, and camaraderie amongst the members there. The last few years I've held it twice, in June and again in July. It's one of our highest attended outings!

Carp, you say? You may think they are beneath you. Guess what? The feeling is mutual. They don't think much of you as a fisherman either!

All kidding aside, carp are a wary adversary, a tireless fighter, and will likely be one of the biggest fish you catch all year. What's not to like?



On June 22nd we had 25 club and family members arrive bright and early on a day with a forecast of hot weather. With some shade and a light breeze the conditions were excellent for a leisurely morning on the bank of the lake. Although many brought their favorite bait concoctions corn again was king. The numbers weren't gaudy but action along the shore was continuous. Around 25-30 bugle mouth bass, and a bunch of unintended bluegills, were hauled in by the crowd. Too bad not everyone got one, but some had multiples.



Ronda Taylor again brought coffee cake to get us started in the morning and around 10:30 I fired up the grill and had burgers and dogs, with all the trimmings, for a late morning snack. All reported a great time, regardless if they got one or not!



Big Green Lake Outing Report By: Rich Sutton

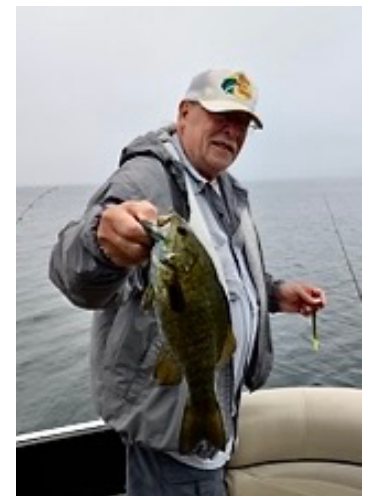


We had our 4th annual fishing outing on Big Green Lake, WI on the 24th-27th of June. There were 17 of us in 4 boats and a pontoon rental. Weather loomed big in our plans, with high temperatures preceding the trip, a cold front while there, and some rain mixed in. Despite that, we got our fishing in, along with the usual socializing, eating, and angling stories.

With the temperature dip, fishing was somewhat of a challenge this year, but we persevered with some anglers doing well catching large mouth, smallies, and rock bass. The bite turned on mid-day Thursday for some of us. Ned rigs along with drop shots appeared to be the best performers in 8-12 FOW. Some largemouth came shallower on wacky rigs and paddle tails.



Two nights of wonderful grilling, chicken the first night and brats/sausages the second, were followed by the visit to our now favorite, Christiano's Restaurant, for our farewell dinner. Accommodations at the Green Lake Inn were great and it is conveniently located 5 minutes from the boat launch and town.



Extra thanks to Ronda/Don Taylor for providing breakfast, Kristie Powell & Barb Saxon for desserts and the sides, Greg Pickle & Henry Comp for the brats/Italian sausages, Ron Cappello & Eyrle Hilton for happy hour snacks, plus the volunteer clean-up crew.



Big Fish of the Month

Big Fish of the Month



Goes to Dan Draz for this monster Striper. Dan was recently fishing off the Cape in Massachusetts with his 2 sons. Over 3 days they caught more than 75 Stripers between 12 and 25 pounds, all on topwater baits. The largest was 44" and 35 lbs!

An awesome father/son adventure. Congrats!

Kid Fish of the Month

Kid Fish of the Month



Goes to 16 year old AJ, grandson of member Bob Steffan, for this whopper 48 inch Lake Sturgeon.

AJ was recently fishing on the Best Dam Float with Bob when he had his epic day catching 3 monsters over 46 inches, among some smaller ones. Great battles!

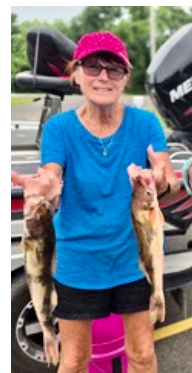
Please share your passion for fishing with a child. Whether it's a relative, a friend, or a neighbor, submit a picture when you do!

Honorable Mention #1



First Honorable Mention goes to Bob Diebold for this super 21.75" smallmouth bass. Bob was recently in Big Bay de Noc tossing a small paddle tail to shallow pre-spawn smallies. He got lots of smaller males and several big females. This one was by far the biggest.

Honorable Mention #2



Second Honorable Mention goes to Dar Mucci for her 17.75" Sauger, a nice length for this species. She was recently fishing on Lake Shelbyville when she and husband Frank got into a mess of good ones.

Getting to Know New 2025 Club Members



Chet Fijor lives in Mount Prospect with his partner (she doesn't fish).

Chet is retired after 50 years of being a Master Machinist.

Chet doesn't have a boat but he does have a trolling motor he can attach to small rental boats.

Chet likes to fish for lots of things but mostly bass, orthern pike, walleyes and panfish.

Chet joined the club to open up a new network of friends who like to go fishing.



Mike Kopplin lives in Norridge. He is presently single but has one grown son.

Mike is semi-retired from real estate investment, management and sales. He bought his first building when he was only 17!

Mike has 2 water craft, a 16' Princecraft with 90 HP Merc and a 22' pontoon, both kept at his place on Castle Rock Lake.

Mike fishes primarily for walleye and northern pike, although he also goes after other species. He takes multiple trips to Canada each year in pursuit of his favorites.

Mike joined the club to get exposure to other anglers. Although he's been too busy to take full advantage, he looks forward to getting more involved in the future.



Neal Ford resides in Arlington Heights with Laura, his wife of 38 years. They have two grown children and 2 grandchildren.

Neal is retired after serving 27 years in the Army and 31 years as a teacher.

Neal doesn't own a boat but often does rentals and charters.

Neal's favorites are walleyes on Lake Erie, walleye and pike on Eagle Lake, and bass and crappies on the Fox Chain.

Neal joined the club after seeing our station at The Crabtree Nature Center during Explore More Outdoor Days. He liked what he heard after talking with our members.

Community Outreach – Busse Fishing Derby By: Kristie Powell



Every Summer Cook County Commissioner Kevin Morrison puts on "Outdoor Days" at Busse Woods, a collection of various outdoor activity presentations. Included is his annual fishing derby, which we run for him. It's for both kids and adults to participate in. Most are complete novices. This year the event was held on June 14 to coincide with the Illinois free fishing days, where licenses aren't needed, and Father's Day weekend.

We set up shop, giving tips, handed out lively worms, help bait hooks, remove fish, and weigh the successful catches. Prizes are given out at the end.



Over a dozen members were in attendance to assist with managing all the action. It was a great time to give back to the community, get exposure for the club, and spend quality time with each other.

Community Outreach – "Gone Fishing" School By: Pat Trunda



On 2 Fridays in June, 6 Club members assisted the Crabtree Nature Center with their "Gone Fishing" School. The school was held at Rolling Knolls Forest Preserve in Elgin.

The members taught the students on how to put bait on a hook, take the fish off the hook, and proper handling and releasing of the fish. Most of the students had never caught a fish before this class.

Club members who volunteered were Ernie Clements, Dave Rohlwing, Rich Sutton, Don and Ronda Taylor, and Pat Trunda. A good time was had by both volunteers and school participants alike.



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Discount Partner Page

Being a member of the Arlington Anglers comes with many benefits. Following is a list of discount partners 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.

Members can see the discounts available to them in the Members Only section of our website. Save money. Use our discount partners!



M&G Propeller



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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



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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