

Arlington Anglers

Persuading Those Fish to Bite



Bob Diebold
Arlington Anglers Fishing Club

You can't pick up a fishing magazine without reading about the various techniques involved in triggering those stubborn fish to bite. Every television fishing celebrity has their special retrieve or presentation. Don't forget the barrage of marketing messages in all of those commercials and advertisements. You have to get this lure, that fluorocarbon leader, the latest fish scent, the red hooks, or the latest banjo minnow.

Let's face the hard facts: Those fish don't read magazines or watch television! All those so-called experts and advertising executives seem to have forgotten about the uncanny ability of those fish beneath the boat to figure out exactly what is going on up top. Over the last hundred thousand years, fish have developed a certain awareness or sixth sense of what those crazy fishermen are doing.

With the help of my counterpart Dan M., I have compiled a list of fisherman tactics that will almost guarantee a fish to bite when all of those common wisdoms fail:

- If you been unsuccessful in a certain area, loudly announce that the next will be your **Last Cast** before departing. This puts the fish on alert, that if they are going to strike, it better be now.
- In a similar vein, you can loudly announce that you are now **Out of Bait** and that you are using the last worm, minnow, or leech. This will surely trigger the fish's inherent greed causing it to hit that bait before some other fish can get there.
- Another sure-fire method to trigger a strike, is to create a large bird's nest in your reel. If you forgot your bifocals to untangle the

reel, you can also generate that strike equally as well by wrapping the line around the trolling motor, transducer, or anchor line.

- It's always important to stay alert, but just put down that rod to grab a sandwich, pour a cup of coffee, or pop a beer/soda and you almost will guarantee a strike, and probably miss it.
- Using more than one rod will always trigger a strike. Just put one rod down and pick up another rod. Bingo! There goes the first bobber. Plus using the second rod also enhances the odds for tangles and lost fish. If fish could smile, this would be the time.
- Probably the most sure fire way of triggering a strike is to answer nature's call. As soon as you put down the rod and start looking for the coffee can or plastic bottle, any fish in that entire bay will start heading for your line. The odds almost increase to 100% if you have to work your way through four layers of ice fishing clothing.

All joking aside, the real way to increase the odds of triggering or catching fish is KNOWLEDGE. Forget about the advertising hype. Read in-depth articles contained in serious magazines like *In-Fisherman*. Fish with other accomplished fisherman and replicate their techniques. Attend seminars, take

notes, and ask questions of the professionals. Better yet, join a quality fishing club like Arlington Anglers, and acquire that knowledge that you need. Listen to top notch speakers; share articles, techniques, or fishing reports; go fishing with other fishermen who have proven techniques and are familiar with the lake, river, or species. Join us at our next meeting!



*JD Dunn carves up his wild turkey at the annual Wild Game Dinner .
cooked by Jim Martinez).*

Since our last article the Arlington Anglers have been busy: On Nov 16th, the club held its annual **Wild Game Dinner**. This meeting is always a favorite as all the members cook up their favorite recipes using that game and fish at the back of the freezers. This year was no exception. Tom and Judi Curtin made a killer venison chili.

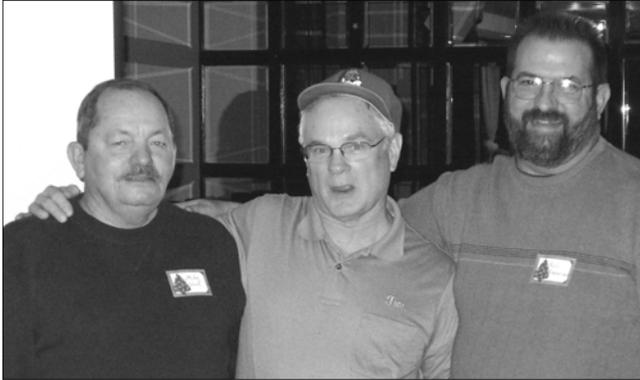
Jim Martinez had some great wall-eyes and bluegills. JD Dunn carved up a delicious wild turkey. Jim and Myrna Patterson offered up their Road Kill Sausage, a strange blend of raccoon, squirrel, armadillo, and who knows what else!

Also at the November meeting, the **Reel Guy**, Joel Janecek 708.209.6858 provided a seminar and demonstration about the techniques involved in giving your fishing reels a much deserved and thorough cleaning. Anyone can spend a lot of money on a reel, so why not protect your investment with regular cleanings? Call Joel if you are interested.

Over 50 people attended the Club's

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Tom Curtin (President) and Rich Rosenwinkle (Big Fish Chairman) present Mike Wood (far left) with the Arlington Anglers Fisherman of the Year Award.



Joel Janecek, a.k.a. The Reel Guy, demonstrates his quality reel cleaning methods at the November meeting.

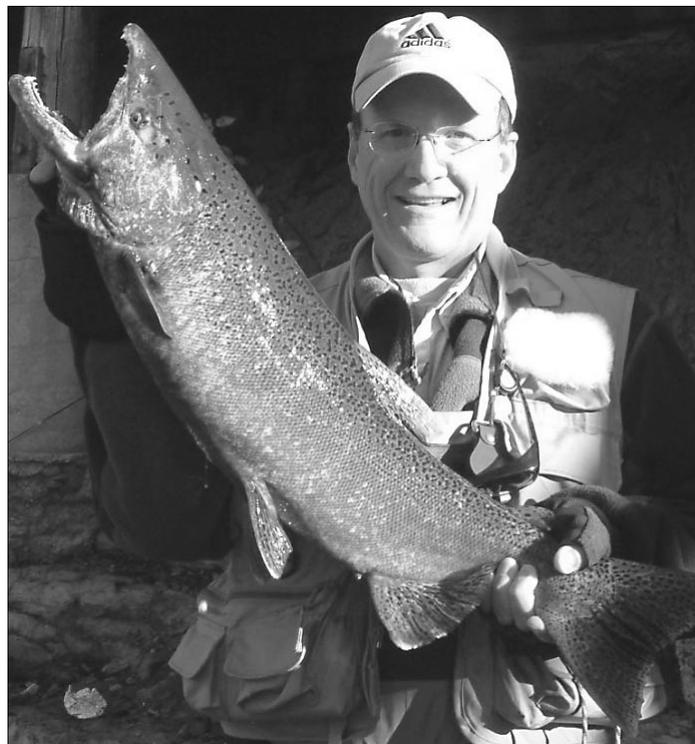
Christmas Party on December 7th. The dinner and drinks served up by the La Mirage Restaurant were outstanding. Club officers for 2009 were announced.: Tom Curtin will again serve as President. New-comers to the Board will include Gary Elliott (Treasurer), Jerry Lopez and John Krickl (Outing Chairmen). Big Fish Contest winners received awards and Mike Wood received the Angler of the Year Award. Attendees came away with Christmas presents, regardless if they were naughty or nice.

Dates to remember: Jan 19 - Meeting Ice Fishing Seminar with Todd Todd and others; Feb 17th Meeting with Speaker.

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 Dick's Sports Store (Flr.1-NW) near Woodfield Shopping Center in Schaumburg, IL, .5 miles north of Higgins, on Martingale Road. 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 arlingtonanglers.com



*Gary Elliott proudly displays his Chinook salmon while fly fishing on the Milwaukee River on 10/18/08.
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