

Arlington Anglers

Refined Walleye Skills = Results



Bob Diebold
Arlington Anglers Fishing Club

As with any fishing technique, skill and knowledge determine the level of success. Refined presentations, such as those used by walleye professionals result in consistent catches under any or adverse conditions.

At our Arlington Anglers June meeting, Walleye Professional Larry Conn walked us thru his equipment, tactics, and presentations that have resulted in many successful walleye trips and tournaments. Larry even brought his fully rigged walleye boat so that members get some new ideas for rigging their own boats. Larry shared some tips that could increase your walleye catches:

Before the Zebra Mussel invasion, boats could often troll right over walleyes in the murky water and not spook them. Now that countless mussels filter the water and drastically increase its clarity, walleyes are proving less tolerant and more elusive.

Walleyes that suspend near the surface in clear water tend to scoot away from a boat passing overhead and escape the lures trailing behind it. Your depth finder may mark few fish, yet there could be scads of them swimming out of your path. One of the most effective methods for getting a lure out to boat-shy walleyes consists of trolling with small planer boards that connect directly to your lines.

Know the trolling diving depths of your crank baits to zero in on the walleyes that are suspended or hugging the bottom. Boat speed and line size will affect depths.

Use maps and your GPS. If you get a fish trolling, mark the spot and go back as soon as possible. It may re-

sult in one additional fish or finding a whole school.

Match your trolling speed to the aggressiveness of the fish and the type of lures you are running. Worm harnesses, crank baits, and spoons all have an optimum speed for realistic action.

Larry Conn 630-792-9698 is a walleye tournament angler, equipment pro-staffer, and a fishing instructor for the City of Chicago Park District. When he's not fishing you might even find him working at Basa's Marine.

On an overcast and rainy 6/6, we had 9 fishermen and 4 boats for the Lake Delavan Outing. Member Joe Rygiel scored a pair of nice 4 lb. largemouth bass casting large minnows. The Jerry Lopez boat did well on northern pike throwing their favorite X-Raps. The Navigation Award was presented to Tom Curtin for finding an establishment on the water with cheap beverages and food.

Dates to remember:
June 27 - Outing at Diversey Harbor for perch;
July 18 - Outing at Lake Shabbona;
July 21 - Meeting with Speaker;
Aug 18 - Club Picnic/Cookout at Harper College Reservoir.

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 <http://arlingtonanglers.com>



Joe Rygiel caught and released this 4+ pound largemouth bass at the 6/6 Arlington Anglers outing on Lake Delavan. PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON