

Arlington Anglers

Being At The Right Place, At the Right Time

Bob Diebold
Arlington Anglers Fishing Club

How many times have you heard this at the launch ramp? "You should have been last week." How many times have you had a pretty good day fishing at a lake and then, a month later, you bring back your buddies, only to get skunked?

If you are an experienced fisherman, you know that there are certain times of the year that are prime for a particular body of water. My father always wanted to hit the Wolf River when the lilacs were blooming. That approach always seem to work, whether it was an early or late spring.

Arlington Anglers was fortunate to have Sun-Times Outdoor Writer, Dale Bowman describe his fishing prime time calendar last month. Dale strongly believes that every month of the year presents a unique and prime fishing opportunity in the Chicago Land area that should not be missed. See if you agree:

- January – Early ice fishing can be quite good. With the heavy ice, all of Busse Woods Reservoir is accessible. Some of the inland trout are left over and very catchable thru the ice at Axe Head, Silver, and other Forest Preserve lakes.
- February – Pre-spawn walleyes can be good at Pecatonica River, Illinois River, and other places with moving water.
- March – Cooling lakes open for shore and boat fishing. Cohos start in Indiana and brown trout stack up at the Chicago break walls.
- April – Boat fishing for perch can start up in Waukegan and Chicago followed by those tasty spring cohos.
- May – The spawning small mouth bass can be hot in Indiana and the Chicago Lakefront (boat or shore). Try around the Shedd Aquarium.

- June – This is the prime month for Lake Front perch!
 - July – Peak steel head fishing in the Indiana streams, rivers, and where they flow into Lake Michigan.
 - August – Many think these are the dog days, but lower water levels in the rivers concentrate the small mouth. Out on the big lake, boaters can take those big steel head and kings.
 - September – Big salmon are on their spawning runs in and around the harbors.
 - October – Salmon can still be caught from shore. Try lake trout on the south side and Indiana shorelines.
 - November – It can be a slow month, but try for muskies or crappies on the Chain. In some of the less populated areas, you would swear you are in Canada.
- December – Early ice on some of the channels on the Chain can be fun. Those tasty perch also can be caught on the Chicago shoreline and harbors.

It's that time of the year and Arlington Anglers had their booth at the Schaumburg Fishing, Travel and Outdoor Expo. We met a lot of many interested fishermen and their families whom we hope to see at our next meeting. Thanks to those of you who stopped by.

A fishing club will introduce you to a large number of new friends that share the same interests and hobbies. The club will provide outings and trips that you never would have even thought about. It will put together people that are looking for fishing buddies when the "bite is on". You'll find yourself fishing more frequently and in a lot of new places.

February is a great time to seek out and try out a new club after you hit



the big fishing shows. You have a no-risk opportunity to see first hand what a club can do for you. Attend our Arlington Angler's Kick-off and New Member Night on February 18th. **Our speaker will be Andrew Ragus from Fishing HQ Magazine, providing a seminar on *Effective Line and Hook Use*.** This session will increase your fishing knowledge and improve your effectiveness this summer.

Dates to remember:

Feb 18 - Meeting

Andrew Ragus on Large and Small Bass Opportunities in IL & WI Waters.

Mar 8 - Club Booth

at the *Rolling Meadows H S Fishing Flea Market*

Mar 18 – Meeting – Mark O'Neil on *Fishing Lake Geneva*

Apr 15 – Meeting – Jim Kopjo on *Spring Crappie Techniques*

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 6:30 to 9:00 PM.

We meet at Cabela's which is located at 5225 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates, IL just off I-90 at Illinois Rt. 59. Door prizes, speaker, raffles, fishing reports: Give it a try!

For further information call our President Tom Curtin at 312-560-9876 or visit our website at:

<http://arlingtonanglers.com>

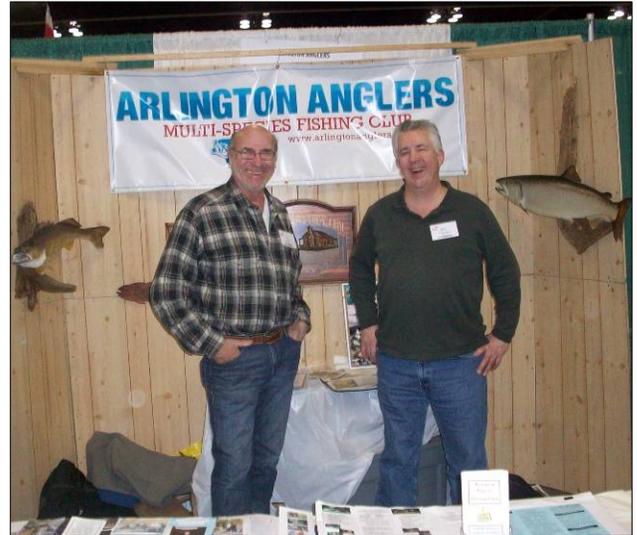
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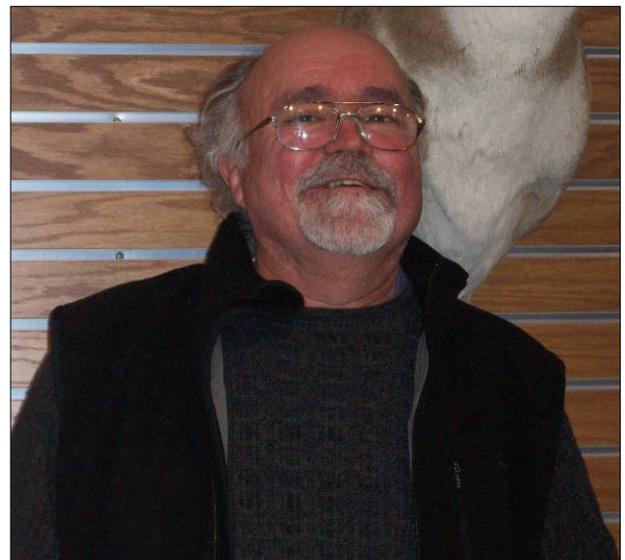
Carroll Shipman caught this 53.5" muskie on a walleye rig while ice fishing in January on Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota. It must have been a tight squeeze out of that hole in the ice.

PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS



Rich Burval and Rich Sutton man the Arlington Anglers booth at the Schaumburg Fishing, Travel and Outdoor Expo.

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Sun-Times Outdoor Writer, Dale Bowman describes Chicago land fishing opportunities at the January Anglers meeting.

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