



Program:

Our next meeting is Wednesday September 3, 2014.

Future Programs and Scheduled Events:

September 12 – Salmon Fishing out of Kenosha. Drive in groups, meet at the gas station. We will depart the harbor at about 6:00AM. Cost is about \$100 for each of six people to cover fishing. A Wisconsin license is required. Call or see Joe Kubica for details

October 1 – regular meeting.

November 5 – regular meeting.

December 3 – This will be our Christmas Party. Bring a dish to share. The Club will supply ham, sodas, and coffee.



Shabbona 5-24-14



BYOB Fishing:

Where's your favorite fishing hole? Call and we'll set up a meet; Joe Nutt, Gary Buehre, or Adolph Janke.

Check out our web site: www.great-lakes.org/vpsc.

You are just a click away from pictures of Salmon and Walleye trips, previous news letters and more about our Villa Park Sportsmen's Club. You may also send information to be posted on the web site to villaparksportsman@att.net.

From the 'Midwest Outdoors' web site. <http://midwestoutdoors.com/magazine>

From the March 2014 issue

Finding Active Kings In Slow Times

By Capt. Lee Haasch

FISH, FISH, GET THE RIGGER! BIG FISH LOOK AT HIM RUN! We all like to hear that kind of action every time we go fishing. Every morning when I leave the dock, I have one goal—fill the cooler with fish. Reality is, that does not happen every time. Some days, the fish are just

uncooperative and we have to work much harder to fill that cooler. Every body of water and every species of fish have times when activity is, well, not really "going down" as we say. There are some things we can do to find some more active fish and entice them to bite.

I get to spend time with a lot of different anglers. I find it fascinating that a majority of them, when it comes right down to it, will all agree that any species of fish will take breaks from feeding. I've noticed over the many years that I have been fishing, that little things affect the feeding patterns of the salmon. Cold fronts, current changes, moon stages, even a slight 10- or 15-degree shift in the wind can trigger the fish to stop biting.

I've talked to many musky fishermen that have fished with me and they comment that on any given day or any hour of that day a fisherman on one side of the lake could catch two or three muskie and another angler on the opposite side using the same lures and techniques can't get a follow-up. That goes the same for large bodies of water like Lake Michigan. Anglers off Algoma may be catching coolers of fish and anglers across the lake may be struggling, or even 20 miles up or down the shoreline. Conditions can change in that short a distance.

What do you do when those fish just don't seem to bite? Give up? No way! Changing a few tactics and paying a little closer attention to a few details may make all the difference in the world. Finicky fish do not need much of a reason not to bite, but a smart angler can still get them to bite. A few tactics that I like to use are quite simple, but can make a big difference.

First, I like to get my baits as far from the boat as possible. Lengthening out the leads on the downriggers works well on the downriggers set higher or mid-range. Also, drop a rigger (or two) deep to tempt those deeper fish. Next, running slide divers and lengthening the leads to 15 to 20 feet will put your baits back more. I also use the Magnum kit from Slide Diver and convert my inside diver to run much deeper. With this kit (heavier weight and large ring), you can effectively run divers 100 feet, 150 feet and deeper with less line out, making them easier to run. They also have a great set of charts on their website to show where the divers run with various baits and lengths of line out.

Next, weighted in-line planer boards are very effective because baits are out wide and back from the boat. Lead core line set-ups are good bets off planer boards or "down the shoot" off the back of the boat. If you have a 300-foot copper line rig, now would be a good time to pull it out. This rig will place your bait back from the boat and run deep, around 90 feet. I find that the flasher/fry rigs will do a little better, attracting those finicky fish from a greater distance. But on occasion, I will look for a good, old school spoon that always produces in the clutch for me, like a green/black Pro King, a watermelon R & R, or a pearl Warrior spoon, and more times than not, they will pull a fish for me when everything else slows down.

When the fish slow down because of a change in weather, like a cold front or wind change, I like to look to my Lowrance plotter map screen for slight contours and structure points on the bottom. While the salmon do not school there, the baitfish will, and often if there is a shift in the current they will only move a short distance to the other side of the point. Since most fish like to feed into the current, the kings will not move very far either and will just slide across the point to continue feeding because the bait is still nearby.

Current changes and change of trolling direction also change the way you are fishing below. Since currents alter the action of your flashers, it is important to pay attention to the current direction and speed. This is where special electronics like the Depth Raider and Fish Hawk speed and temperature units come in. I watch my Fish Hawk unit every time I change direction and try to bring my lures back to a fish-catching speed. Now while the exact speed may not be the same in all directions, it will be a pretty close place to start and will help to get you to and keep you at the optimum speed.

Little things will help to put more salmon in your cooler during those slow times, which occur more frequently than we want to admit. The better fishermen will pay attention to the little details and will be able to catch more fish. For current fishing reports or information on charter fishing, check out my report page at www.FishAlgoma.com. From Capt. Lee and the crew aboard the *Grand Illusion 2*, good luck and good fishing!

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We meet the first Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 PM at the North Terrace Pond Clubhouse on Westmont and Terrace (approximately 6 blocks south of North Avenue and 3 blocks west of Addison) in Villa Park. Annual dues are \$30. Visitors or prospective new members are welcome - a \$3 fee is requested. If you are interested in attending or becoming a member please contact: Marty Kapolczynski at (630) 932-1923.