

Keep Collecting Cans and Batteries

The Oswegoland Fishin' Fools is a multi-species fishing club. We meet the 1st Monday of each month at 7 PM in the Allied First Bank Building, 3201 Orchard Road, Oswego Visit us on the Web at: http://www.fishinfools.org

Braidwood Coming Back Strong

Anyone that has fished Braidwood in the past knows how tough it was to find fish. They have been stocking Braidwood for the last few years and the quality of the fish has greatly improved. Anglers have been taking 3-5 pounders consistently. Look at the 23 inch bass taken last year by Don Ayres for March Fish of the Month. The best locations for bass right now are along the natural shoreline across from the South launch. Fish plastics and crankbaits up near the shore in the early morning when its cooler and then back off to the weedline later in the day. The water temperature on the discharge side is about 79 degrees and about 5 degrees cooler on the intake side. In addition to the bass, the catfish are noticeably larger. Amy and Danny went out a few weeks ago and just like in the past, the catfish were plentiful but there were a number of larger ones mixed in. As one angler at the dock told her, we saw you just shoveling them in the boat. We were watching and no one was catching as much as the two of you. I guess the "Catfish Queen" is back but she paid the price for it. She went to the doctor that week for tightness in the chest and come to find out; she pulled a muscle from fishing so hard. Amy used her old standby, a jig and a worm. After cutting each worm in half and going through three packages of worms, we had to go to Gulp Alive worms and they seemed to bite just as good. So if you haven't tried Braidwood lately, now's the time to go!

Boat Positioning

Many times anglers get so wrapped up in lure selection and plan of attack that they overlook how to position the boat when they get there. Not having your boat in the right position makes it harder to locate the ideal casting angles and mishandling the boat can spook the fish or cloud the water before you make the first cast. Here are some general rules of thumb.

- Position yourself for longer casts in clearer water.
- Avoid hitting the bank or cover with the boat.
- Always cast upstream when there is current present.
- Always keep your trolling motor at a constant speed and whenever you can, simply let the wind or current take you in the direction you want to go. Watch your drift, currents can easily drag you away from the ideal angles.

Using positioning aides can make it somewhat easier. Mark your position using your GPS so you can find them later. Other tools such as buoy markers and drift socks can help in positioning. Wind socks help fight strong winds and keep your boat in place without draining your battery power. Take a day off from fishing and learn to use your boat and navigation equipment properly.

Fish of the Month February 2012	Officers and Members of the Planning Committee		
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Mark Lutz	Mark Corah, Committeeman	mjcorah@sbcglobal.net	(630) 896-7921
7lb. Saltwater Sheepshead	Ginny Banning, Committeeman	bsupumom@comcast.net	(630) 552-0341

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		Club News	
Mar 31-April 1	Lake of Egypt	Upcoming Speakers: April 2 nd – John Mannerino –	Illinois River
April 21	Illinois River – Utica Event	June 4 th – Tyler Kennedy – Tu Oct. 1 st – Bob Hausler – Illing	
May 19-20	Lake Jacksonville	Blind Cashier A woman goes into Cabela's It's a good all-around combo,	
June 16	PrairieFest Kids Fishing Clinic	to buy a rod and reel for her grandson's birthday. She	and it's on sale this week for only \$20.00." I'll take it! She
June 28-29	Turtle-Flambeau, WI	doesn't know which one to get, so she just grabs one and	drops her credit card and bends over to pick it up and
July 21 (Oswego)	Fox River Event and Picnic	goes over to the counter. The clerk was standing behind the counter wearing dark shades.	lets one go. Being the only one around, she thinks the cashier didn't notice. The
Aug 18	Madison Chain of Lakes Event	She says to him, "Excuse me, sir. Can you tell me anything	man rings up the sale and says, "That'll be \$34.50
Sept 22-23	N. Illinois Hunting & Fishing Days	about this rod and reel?" He says, "Ma'am, I'm completely	please." The woman is totally confused by this and asks,
Sept 29-30	Lake Shelbyville	blind; but if you'll drop it on the counter, I can tell you	"Didn't you tell me it was on sale for \$20.00? How did you
Oct 20	Illinois River - Ottawa	everything from the sound it makes." She doesn't believe	get \$34.50?" He replies, "Yes, ma'am. The rod and reel is
		him but drops it on the counter anyway. He says,	\$20.00, but the Duck Call is \$11.00, and the Catfish Bait is
		"That's a six-foot Shakespeare	\$3.50." She paid it and left
		graphite rod with a Zebco 404 reel and 10-LB. Test line.	without saying a word.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address Label