

## **“PERSISTENCE: DON’T GIVE UP!”**

The value of persistence in many areas of our lives is evident. One of my **favorite quotes** is from **Calvin Coolidge** stating:

**“Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.”**

How does this apply to our fishing? The **knowledge and skill** used by successful fishermen **does not come easily**. There are **no “magic lures” or “secrets”** that will **make a person successful in fishing overnight**. Knowledge about fish and experience on the water **using that knowledge is the key** to catching fish consistently. Yet **many** people do not understand the significance of the above quote and **feel they do not have the talent, genius, or knowledge** to duplicate the catches of more experienced Spoonpluggers. **Buck Perry** has **created the knowledge we need** with his talent and genius. Reading his lifes’ story about how he studied fish behavior leaves no doubt about the **determination and persistence he used to discover the scientific facts**. The knowledge about fish and **a precise and organized manner of lure presentation is there for us to use**. All we need to have is **the persistence and determination to use it**.

Persistence can grow from **realizing the fact that fish are not active most of the time**. We cannot expect instant success on the water whenever we go fishing. The **knowledge** we gain from studying Mr Perrys’ written materials **helps us to better choose those places, times, and lure presentation methods that will give us the best chance to catch fish under each set of circumstances**. By persistently studying and experiencing Spoonplugging Guidelines on the water, **we become better and better** at evaluating each fishing situation.

**Spoonplugging is a lifetime learning experience**. There are **no “experts” in fishing** because there is so much more to learn. We are fortunate to have our **newsletters, clubs, and network outings** where we can **help and learn from each other**. We really **begin to learn when we share and teach others**. With so many different levels of experience, **we all can be teachers of someone**. **Being persistent** in continuing to gain knowledge **is essential in any area of endeavor**. Once we think we **know it all** and stop learning, **we will lose interest** and our fishing success will plummet. A fishing trip where nothing is learned, even though some fish were caught, was considered by Mr Perry to be a waste of time.

**Belief that what you are doing “works” is fundamental** to being persistent. Don't count on another Spoonplugger "proving" anything by taking you out on a given day. Conditions are just too unpredictable. Attending and seeing the great catches made at **our Spoonplugging Network Outings** can be **very convincing**. Also, **pictures of big fish** in our newsletters and Mr Perrys’ written material are **very persuasive**. And, the **simple logic of Spoonplugging speaks for itself**. When exposed to these, there is **little excuse not to be persistent if one desires to become a successful fisherman**.

**If there is a “secret” to fishing success, it is the persistence and determination to study and acquire knowledge, then to experience it on the water, that gives us the success and satisfaction we desire.**

Chase Klinesteker