

LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGER MEETING SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

“FRUSTRATIONS IN FISHING”

“THE LONGER WE FOLLOW THE RIGHT PATH, THE EASIER IT BECOMES”---Anonymous

Charlie Flanders talked about “Frustrations in Fishing”. From the Illinois Winter Seminar, he related a story John Bales told about fishing a lake the summer before for a full week with few results, then returned in the fall and caught many large fish, including walleye. His earlier trips were not in vain---he was mapping and learning the structure and breaklines, even though the fish were not there or active at that time. When he returned later, his knowledge about the lake and seasonal changes allowed him to make great catches. John mentioned “I just keep fishing”, showing his confidence in Spoonplugging guidelines and the knowledge he obtained about the lake. Charlie mentioned that persistence is important, and that when you start to become frustrated with your fishing results, confidence in what you are doing is essential, knowing that others have succeeded with these guidelines. He also mentioned that in the “Mental Aspects” chapter of Buck Perrys’ book, we are reminded to not give up---that fishing is a lot of work, and that the rewards are not always available. Our thoughts and actions affect our failures and successes. We must be in the right place, at the right time, and fishing in the right manner to obtain success. If any are off, there will be little or no success. When we realize that fish activity periods are short compared to the total time we may be fishing, we can see the difficulty in becoming a successful fisherman. Some questions to ask yourself if you get frustrated are: How long have I been Spoonplugging? Has my fishing improved? Do I expect too much without putting in the effort? Do I observe the weather and animal behavior to help my interpretation? Do I pay close attention to structure details? Am I always aware of depth and speed? These and many more questions should be asked to gain understanding and confidence. Great program! Many thanks, Charlie!

Chase Klinesteker