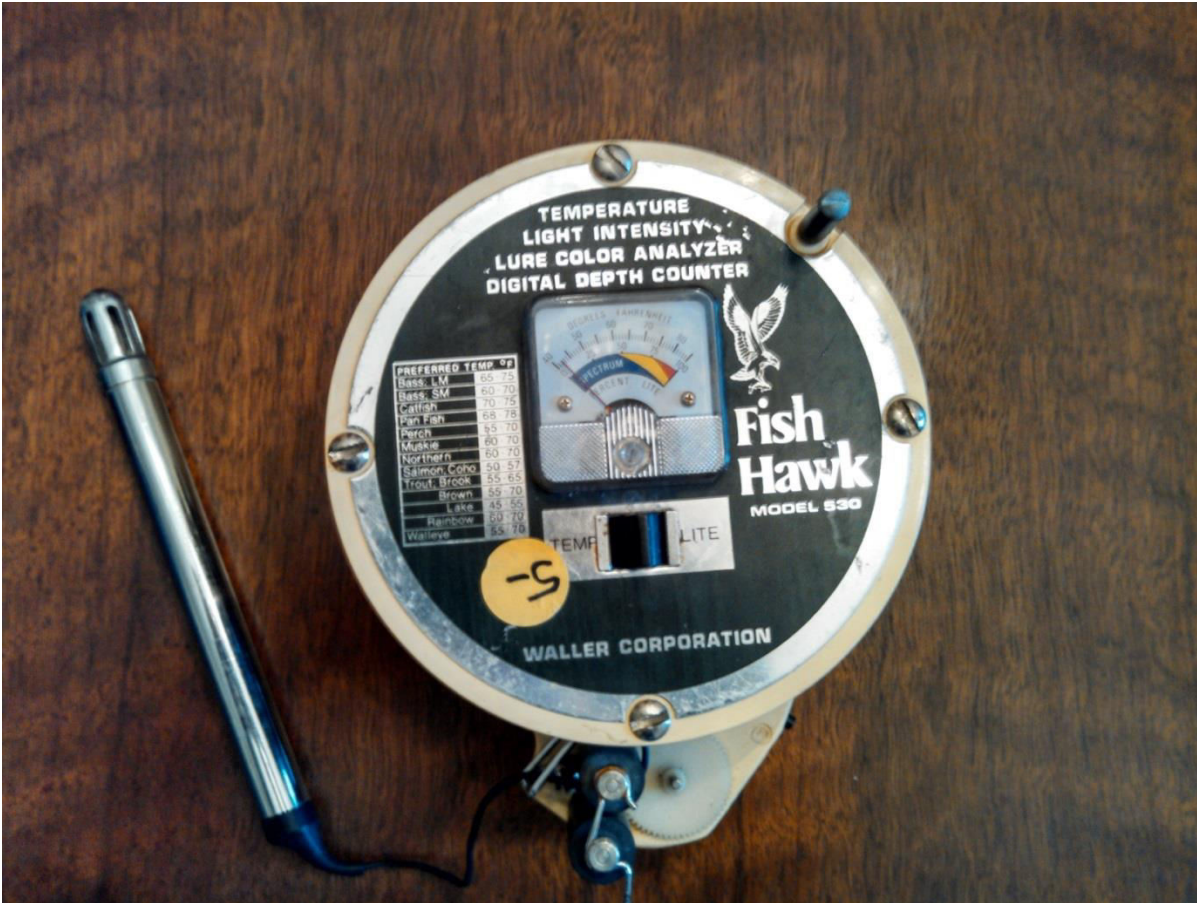


SPOONPLUGGING STUDY GROUP, APRIL 20, 2006

## “THE QUANTITY OF GADGETS”



Color Analyzer, Temperature, Light, and depth meter---for sale

Tony Dean wrote an article in “**Outdoor America**”, a national publication of the **Izaak Walton League**, about fishing gadgets. This is one article that **would not appear in a national fishing magazine** that had fishing tackle advertisers (are there any that don’t other than “National Spoonplugger”?). The article **stated** that “**the quality of fishing doesn’t depend on the quantity of gadgets**”. The author wonders: “**why** fishermen worry about meaningless things like color, when the **simple act of putting the bait in front of the fish** is what’s **really important**”. He notices that some who tie flies spend **excessive amounts of time** trying to **emulate the real thing**, but that he knows fishermen that tie poor or even **ugly flies** who **often** seem to be the **most successful** at catching fish. He wonders **if all the new gadgets** and equipment available: GPS, color analyzers, underwater cameras, super lines, special rods, and 225-horsepower motors on 20 foot boats **are that essential for the average fisherman**. He feels that there will come a time when **many gadgets** would join the Color-C-Lector, PH Meter, and Oxygen Meter as items that **wouldn’t bring much money at a yard sale**. Mr. Dean acknowledges that there is a **huge difference between competitive fishing and what most of us do** on weekends, but the **technology** they promote “**raises the cost of fishing and doubtlessly scares some fishermen** with thin billfolds **out of the sport**”. Mr. Perry is gone now, but somehow I feel that this article would be approved, if not inspired, by him.

Chase Klinesteker