LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING

APRIL 5, 2007

"PLAN OF ATTACK"



Roger with nice Grand River Flathead Catfish

Roger Bouwkamp gave a program on "Our Plan of Attack" when we get on the water. We all have struggled with this at times. We are familiar with

Spoonplugging concepts and Guidelines, but when we get on the water, we draw a blank or go back to old habits. Any professional worker (painter, plumber, etc.) has a certain order in his work to make him most efficient and productive. This is developed from time on the job, using the best tools, and guidance from others who were very successful doing it. Our fishing is similar to that. Our guidance and tool selection comes from Buck Perry, one of the best fishermen who ever lived, through his "Green Book" and study material. We often have limited time to fish, so procedure guidelines are very important. Roger recommended to practice using Spoonplugging Guidelines when fishing a new lake because we will not be tempted as much to revert to old habits. Some of **his best catches** last year came from **fishing a new lake** (Big Pine Island) when he strictly followed procedure directions as in the "Green Book". What are those directions? Roger selected a large bar to concentrate on and learn its' structure thoroughly. Then he proceeded to contour troll it with the 3 smallest lures. Next he did straight line passes on the deeper features with the larger lures. Dropping markers is helpful in this process to visualize what is there. Once he became familiar with the bar in detail, it was easier to figure out (interpret) where the fish would be when active. This is where he concentrates his fishing. These procedures are not complex, but they do require discipline and persistence. The rewards are great. Roger recommended that we learn to run the 3 small lures in the shallows with the depth sounder off on a dark water color lake. He said he remembers that Terry O'Malley and Rocky Bridges made passes with each size lure going in each direction to gain more knowledge about a structure. Also helpful is to always have a shore linesight while trolling so you can return to a spot when needed. Many thanks to Roger for presenting this excellent program. Rogers' success at fishing speaks for itself.

Chase Klinesteker