

## LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING MAY 7, 2009

### “THE K.I.S.S. PRINCIPLE IN FISHING”

“A PERSON HEARS ONLY WHAT THEY UNDERSTAND”--

Johnathan Wolfgang Von Goethe

Larry Simonson gave the program on “**The K.I.S.S. Principle in Fishing**”. In effect, the letters stand for “**keep it simple, stupid!**” One of the attractions to **Spoonplugging for Larry was its’ organized and simple approach to equipment and presentation procedures**. Especially **frustrating are all the choices** of fishing tackle and lures out there nowadays. **If we listened to and bought all the recommended equipment**, our boats would be so jammed full, there would **hardly be room for fishermen** (some of us have come close!). Larry talked about the “**paralysis of analysis**” where there are so many choices, **we end up giving up or with a very poor choice**. He used **an analogy of someone building a backyard deck**. Normally one would plan, measure, buy the exact amount of wood needed, and build the deck with a standard set of tools. **In fishing**, however, we often **have too many tools, lots of odd sized lumber, and no plan**. It would be **pure luck** if we were to build a decent deck (or **have fishing success**) **with that approach!** He recommended we **ask ourselves “do I need all this”** and “is this just getting in the way?”

We have to **get beyond** looking for that “**magic lure**” or **shortcut to success**. Ask yourself: “**Did I concentrate too much on the “tools” and not enough on the process or plan?**” When you catch a fish do you ask “**Where did he come from?**” Also, if you are not catching fish do you ask yourself: “**Did I check all depths and all speeds?**” and “**Was my mapping thorough enough?**” Do you fully believe that deep water is the home of the fish? Knowledge is the key to fishing success, and **with that knowledge comes the confidence to stick with it and catch more fish**. Spoonplugs are teaching and disciplinary tools used to help us arrive there.

**The plan is the key ingredient**, and **Buck Perry has given us a logical plan and simple tools that will get the job done the best and most efficiently---in all waters and for all species**. Buck formed his approach around the two **most important controls** needed to catch fish---**depth and speed**, and then recommended and made tools that allow us to thoroughly control all depths and all speeds. **The last part of the equation is structure**, the bottom of the lake that is different from the surrounding area, which **the fish use on their movements and migrations**. **It could not be much simpler---**“**Check all depths and all speeds both casting and trolling, on structure**”. That is a description of **Spoonplugging in a nutshell** and is part of the Spoonpluggers Basic Guideline written by Mr. Perry. Terry Velting said we should take that sentence and laminate it on our tackle boxes to **remind us how simple it can be**. Simple does not necessarily mean easy—to be successful at anything, **one needs to work hard**, but it gives us a simple **approach that will make us successful if we stick with it**, and it has been **proven successful over many years** by many people. That is much better than being constantly bombarded by numerous new products and methods.

Although Larry has been Spoonplugging only a few years, he shows a good grasp of the essence of what it is all about. Thanks to Larry for a great program that made us all think more about going “back to basics” in our fishing!

Chase Klinesteker