



321 Railroad Ave, Bartlett, IL 60103

hook'n line

August 2016

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Coming Events

General Membership Meeting
Tues, August 9th, 7:30 pm

Speaker:

Chuck Bronte

Chuck is a Senior Biologist for the USFW and Director of the Great Lakes Fish Tag and Recovery Program. Come out and learn about how the program is being used to manage the Lake Michigan Trout and Salmon fishery!

Upcoming Club Meetings:

September 13 – General Membership

October 11 – General Membership

November 8 – General Membership

Club Tournaments

August 13 – Club Tournament

August 20 – SU IL Open

August 27 – Club Tournament

September 3 – Club Tournament (Make Up)



Long time member, Don Dubin was our speaker for the July meeting. Don gave a great presentation regarding the history of the salmon and trout fishery on the lake and how it all began, and also offered some thoughts on where it might be going due to the introduction of invasive species.

Hook'n Line is the official newsletter of Salmon Unlimited, Inc., a non-profit organization, and is published monthly for members. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of Salmon Unlimited, Inc.

Officers: Jim Nelligan, President; Jim Stepp, Vice President; Bill Meier, Treasurer; Mike Mayworm, Secretary.

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Webmaster: Mike Graziano

Newsletter Editor: Mark Sandahl

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We apologize in advance for any typographical errors. We make every effort to ensure correctness. Feel free to let us know if we over-looked something. Please direct any/all correspondence to:

Salmon Unlimited Office

321 Railroad Ave, Bartlett, IL 60103

www.salmonunlimitedinc.com, (773) 736-5757

**General Membership Meetings at
VFW HALL - 7:30 to 10:00 PM
400 E Devon Ave, Elk Grove Village, IL**

President's Report

"Don't wait. The time will never be just right."
- Napoleon Hill

Another month of good fishing has just passed and we may have more questions than answers. Will this good fishing continue? Why has the fishing been much better than predicted by biologists from several states? All reports are healthy fish and lots of bait, so why the rush to cut stocking plans an additional 62% starting next year? We don't have any natural reproduction in Illinois or Indiana, why cut there at all?

Now comes word that after several discussions and meetings with fishermen, Wisconsin is leaning towards not complying with the proposed stocking cuts. There is more uncertainty than conviction and we have asked for a meeting with the head of the DNR of Illinois' Lake Michigan division, Vic Santucci, and Steve Robillard, their main biologist, to discuss at our board meeting whether Illinois will follow Wisconsin's lead and not rush into this stocking cut plan? Our question mainly is this, "With such good fishing this year, why the rush to cut now?" The fishery seems to be sustaining the predators much better than predicted, and if the DNR's can be that far off in what they thought was going to happen, it seems prudent to just wait awhile before making any further cuts, if ever. Stay tuned, we will report on this board meeting at the next general meeting on Tuesday, August 12th.

State moves to bring Northpoint Marina back to life:
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/news/ct-lns-north-point-marina-privatized-problems-st-0730-20160729-story.html>

The budget mess in Springfield has delayed this process of bidding, but it looks like they are finally trying to get this resolved.

Besides our 3 more club tournaments this month we have the Salmon Unlimited Open fishing tournament on August 20th at Northpoint Marina that is open to all fishermen. Northpoint Marina is giving free slips on Friday night for all that enter. We have prizes for Big Fish, every big species and a small boat award besides paying the top ten places. There are plenty of great raffles and free food supplied by the Tropics after the weigh in at the Skipper Bud's building with a cash bar.

You can sign up online or print off an application off our website and mail it in.

<http://www.salmonunlimitedinc.com/#!suopen/c1oqv>

All the best,
Jim Nelligan
President

Membership

Benefits of Membership:

- Membership card entitling bearer to all association benefits.
- Embroidered Salmon Unlimited membership patch.
- Salmon Unlimited automobile decal.
- Voting privileges.
- Salmon Unlimited Hook 'n Line newsletter, published 12 times a year, and sent only to Active Members.
- Fishing seminars covering all aspects of salmon and trout angling.
- Participation in all club competitions and activities.
- Family Membership (Spouse and dependent children of Active Members are eligible to participate in competitions and other activities).
- Membership Roster - Active Members receive a roster of Active Members.
- Set of distinctive Salmon Unlimited boat decals (A set comes with membership, any additional sets are \$5.00.).

Join or renew memberships on our website.

<http://www.salmonunlimitedinc.com/#!page3/cee5>

2016 Tournaments



2015 Boat of the Year

2016 Club Tournaments

- May 7 (Northpoint)
- May 21 (Northpoint)
- June 11 (Northpoint)
- July 23 (Northpoint)
- August 13 (Northpoint)
- August 27 (Northpoint)
- Sept 3 Make-up Date (Northpoint)

Big Tournaments

- June 4 – SU WI Open (Racine)
- June 18 – Kenosha Classic (Kenosha)
- June 25 – 26 – SU IL Pass the Passion (Northpoint)
- July 9 – Super Sweepstakes (Racine)
- July 10 – Two in the Boat (Racine)
- August 6 – Brew City (Milwaukee)
- August 20 - SU IL Open (Northpoint)
- September 10 – SU Kid's Fishing Derby (Waukegan)

Club Tournament Awards

Top 3 Boats

The first place boat will be awarded a prize of \$5.00 per boat entered (ie. With 20 boats entered, the first place boat would receive 20 X \$5.00 = \$100.00). The second place boat will receive \$3.00 per boat. The third place boat will receive \$2.00 per boat.

\$250 Big 3

New for 2015 the \$250 Big 3 contest will be awarded to the team with the 3 largest fish at each tournament regardless of species. Example, 2 Kings and 1 Lake Trout. This contest is part of every club tournament.

Bonus Fish

The largest bonus fish caught will receive \$4.00 per boat. In the event no bonus fish is caught, the money will carry over to the next tournament. **Side Bet**

There will be a voluntary \$10.00 Side Bet for each tournament. The Side Bet criteria will be determined by the tournament boat prior to each contest.

Largest Fish of the Season

A monetary reward for the largest fish caught for the season will also be awarded (\$1.00 per boat per tournament).

**All monetary rewards are based on the number of boats participating.*

Rookie Boat of the Year

There will be a special end of the year award for the Rookie Boat with the most tournament points at seasons end. Rookie boats are those that are fishing their first season of S.U. Tournaments.

We hope to see everyone participating in our fun club tournaments in 2016. We will be having our awesome bbqs again so come out for a fun day with fellow members.

Captain Jim Nelligan, Tournament Chairman

\$250 Big 3 - Sponsored by:

Thermalcraft, James P. Maechtle Decorating, Advanced Automotive and Duck Bill Charters.

Tournament Corner

The July 23rd club tournament was held in the foggiest conditions of the year so far, but the fishing was excellent. 10 boats scored over 200 points and 4 boats, including the winner had grand slams. 16 boats had 10 fish limits. The 21 boats that entered brought 190 fish to the scales and the target fish, Rainbow Trout, had 103 caught and weighed. Once again, the doom and gloom rhetoric surrounding the fishery was shown to be much too pessimistic on our side of the lake. Both Friday and Saturday saw some of the best steelhead fishing in years.

1st Place - Greenmachine, Captain John Straus, 90.1 LBS with a grand slam, 280.1 Pts. - \$105

2nd Place - Grey Lion II, Captain Jim Nelligan, 66.3 LBS with a grand slam, 256.3 PTS. - \$63

3rd Place - Doin Fine, Captain Norb Piorek, 52.7 LBS with a grand slam, 242.7 PTS. - \$42

Big Fish of Tournament - 21.4 LB King Salmon, Greenmachine, Captain John Straus - \$210.00

Big 3 Winner, (Sponsored by: James P. Maechtle Decorating, Advanced Automotive of Palatine, Duck Bill Charters and Thermalcraft Inc.)

Blind Squirrel, 50 LBS. Captain Don Schreiner - \$250

Big Target Fish: 16.3 LB Rainbow Trout, Greenmachine, Captain John Straus \$84

Top Rookie Boat: Herb's Brother, Captain Mark Vogt

Johnny Lazarich made Italian sausage with red sauce, peppers and onions and Italian beef sandwiches and a wonderful pasta salad, how good was that boys and girls? Thanks again Johnny, I was 150 lbs before you started cooking for us. :) Well, maybe not.

Since a 63 ft boat ran into the rocks outside the harbor in the fog on Saturday, I thank God all of us got back in safely. That's a tribute to all of the captains skill. Phew!

Next club tournament is August 13th, see y'all there. Johnny is making pulled pork sandwiches.

Captain Jim Nelligan
Tournament Chairman

Calling All Boats!

We've had a great turn out for all of our club tournaments this year, thus far, and I wanted to say thank you to all the boat captains and crews that come out to participate in what always turn out to be great outings! Hopefully we can keep the participation high and the fun level at the weigh-ins even higher!

I also wanted to take the opportunity to let everyone know about an opportunity to fish some more outings north of the border. SU WI also has a club series going on that a couple of the SU IL boats have been participating in (Doctor's Orders and Jawzon). I've fished on Doctor's Orders for two of the outings so far and have had a blast!

The SU WI outings are held out of the boat launch basin in Racine. They all take place on Sundays, which presents a great opportunity for some of the SU IL trailer-able boats to launch right at Racine and fish some of, what I and many consider some of the most productive water around. Being that the outings are held on Sundays, this gives most people a good chance to use Saturday to prefish.

The last two remaining SU WI outings of the year are:

August 14th

&

August 28th

If anyone is interested in fishing the outings, please get ahold of Jim Stepp or myself and we can put you in contact with Roger Hellen of SU WI that runs the SU WI Club Outings.

-Mark Sandahl
Hook-N-Line Editor



SUPA Announcement!!

As many are aware, the Salmon Unlimited IL Open tournament is just around the corner, taking place on Saturday August 20th!

We invite everyone with a boat to come out and catch some fish! There are many prizes to be had including a small boat prize, \$250 prizes for the largest of each species brought to the scales, and a \$1000 big fish prize!

Head over to the club website to sign up!

www.salmonunlimitedinc.com

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Homemade Salmon Patties

Prepared and submitted by Sarah Sandahl

Ingredients (serving size 5-6, 3" patties)

- 2, 6oz pieces of salmon/trout (boneless/skinless)
- 2 sleeves saltine crackers
- half an onion
- 1 egg
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1 tbsp garlic salt
- 1 tsp coarse black pepper



Preparation

Grind entire two sleeves of saltine crackers into fine crumbs using a food processor (I used a Nutri Bullet for all grinding/food processing when preparing patties). Mix in garlic salt and pepper with cracker crumbs. Chop onion into fine pieces and add to crumb mixture. Chunk up your salmon/trout and puree in the food processor. Add pureed salmon/trout to cracker crumb mixture. Finally add the egg and mix it all up with your hands. Form into patties no more than an inch thick.

Put the cup of bread crumbs in a separate bowl or on a plate (feel free to add additional garlic salt and pepper to the bread crumbs for more flavor). Heat up your cooking oil (I prefer to use coconut oil rather than traditional vegetable oil...they still turn out great and it's healthier!).

Cover each patty in the bread crumbs and add to cooking oil.

Cook patty until each side is golden brown (about 2 minutes on each side). When done, place on paper towel-covered plate to soak up any residual oil. After that...EAT UP!



These salmon patties make an easy pull-out-of-the freezer dinner. I did not put the last minute bread crumbs on the patties prior to freezing because I want the crispiness of the fresh bread crumbs when I go to eat them later on. That being said, be sure to prepare the bread crumb mixture and add to the patties prior to frying. Enjoy!!!!



Flasher and Flies for Great Lakes Salmonids

One of my favorite (and all too often) comments I see when reading through online fishing reports is something to the effect "its an all spoon bite right now, nothing going on flasher flies", or "i just can't get flashers to work for me". Well the purpose of this post is to help you out if you are in that camp. Other than a few specific scenarios Flashers and Flies will be your most consistent bait...daily for Kings, Cohos, and Lakers, if not you're fishing them wrong!!

Seriously. Lets dive in and take a look at the top 5 mistakes made when fishing Flashers and Flies.

1. Not Running enough of them -->This absolutely has to be the single biggest mistake the average weekend fisherman makes. Whether it stems from a lack of confidence in the presentation or not a good understanding of how they work in your overall spread dynamic. Flashers suck fish into your spread and when you're out combing the vast great lakes the more fish you get to look at your spread the more that end up in your box at the end of the day. If the fish are below 40ft, load up your riggers and divers with Flashers, no more than one of your rigger rods should have a spoon on it. If you only fish two riggers make them both flashers. You want to create the effect of a school of salmon aggressively pursuing baitfish. Riggers and especially divers are not subtle presentation methods so pair these methods with flasher and flies and you'll play to the aggressive fish in the school and make things happen! If you want to run a spoon run it way back behind a rigger, down and below your main flasher presentation.

2. Not Running Flashers on Leadcore / Copper setups -->If I had a nickle for every time I've been asked if you can run FF on leadcore or copper I'd have a new boat! Of course you can run flashers this way, and in a lot of cases this is exactly what you need to do to maximize your bites. Lets start out and walk through an average season on Lake Michigan. Throughout May we'll be aggressively targeting Coho, the vast majority of the fish are going to be in the top 15fow no matter the overall depth of water. In this scenario 6" orange/red Jensen Dodgers with a [peanut](#) or [mini fly](#) are ridiculously better than any other presentation. When targeting spring/early summer Coho no spoon or plug will out catch a well presented spread of 6" orange dodgers on board rods be it flat lines with snap weights or off 1 and 2 colors. If I'm targeting Kings on my board rods my main gauge on when to reach for the flashers or spoon box will be the target depth of the presentation. If I'm fishing 30ft to the surface (5 colors and up) more often then not I'll reach for a spoon, 35-50ft (7-10 colors) is no mans land sometimes flashers are better sometimes spoons. Now copper lines fishing below 50ft almost always are, and should be loaded with flasher flies.

3. Wrong Color Combos -->Think of flashers and flies as a pair, they work together to seduce a strike. Sure some crazy color combos sometimes work but you'd be best served to stick with the basics and branch out slowly. Also certain fly and flasher colors work better for specific species so know your target. Kings are suckers for green and aqua patterns like [Milwaukee Minnow](#), [Naughty Leprechaun](#), [Green Willy](#), [Smooth Operator](#), and [First In's Fire Fly](#) to name a few with all being yearly big King producers. Frog Patterns like [50/50 Frog](#), [Bullfrog](#), [Naughty Frog](#), [Fire Frog](#) and [Super Frog](#) are especially deadly during the 2nd half of summer. The mix of the rubber and tinsel is just killer on Kings and when they are keyed in on frog flies often times that is all they'll bite. Not running a good mix of frog flies would be a huge mistake if you're targeting kings. As with the straight tinsel flies greens and aquas once again are the dominant colors. Flasher color can be really important as well,

kings as a general rule prefer flashers like [White Double Glow](#), [Chartreuse Double Glow](#), and various Chromes like [Salmon Flute](#) and [Black Friday](#). The flies I detailed above work with any of these flashers, stick with the white flashers during low light hours and down deep, run the chartreuse flashers in the top 60ft, and chromes can be ran anywhere but often are the best producers on tough sunny days on mid-day kings. Lakers aren't nearly as picky and will hit nearly any correctly presented flasher fly combo, that said flies in light green to chartreuse like [Limesicle](#), [Bad Apple](#), and [UV Triton 8-12](#) are particularly deadly on Lakers, pair them with a Chartreuse Double Glow flasher or Green Bubble Flasher. Now Cohos are really not a picky fish and will hit nearly any full size king/laker combo all summer long. Rainbows are similar to Cohos and will hit any Flasher Fly combo without much of a pattern, the only combo I'll run to specifically target steelhead is a 6" Orange Jensen Dodger and [Steelie Stomper Mini Fly](#) which is a great set up on your outside board rod.

4. Wrong Leader Lengths -->Keep it simple! The old rule of thumb, 3x the length of the Flasher or Dodger still holds true! For Coho run your peanut and mini flies 18" behind your 6" Dodgers. When running 8" flashers 24"-26" fly leaders work best most of the time, if you're running 11" paddles try 36" leaders. I set my fly leaders in this range and leave them be, don't second guess yourself these are proven lengths and work every day. All lengths are measured from the bottom bend of the treble hook to the end of the mono loop you form to attach to your flasher.

5. Divers and Spoons...Just say no! -->Spoons as I mentioned above have a time and place and catch lots of big salmon every year...but that time and place is NOT behind your diver on a wire line rod! Don't make this mistake...wire divers take our biggest kings every year and they are always running flashers and flies no matter the depth. Wire divers are the most aggressive presentation you have in your arsenal..make sure you match it with an aggressive presentation like a flasher fly combo at least 8ft behind the diver...10-12ft is better.

Content courtesy of Bill Kregel, Posiedon Trolling Flies



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