

# RIVERSIDE FISHING CLUB

Fishing Line Newsletter



2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

|        |        |        |         |
|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Jan 14 | Feb 11 | Mar 11 | Apr 24* |
| May 13 | Jun 10 | July 8 | Aug 12  |
| Sep 9  | Oct 14 | Nov 11 | Dec 9   |

Always check club emails \*SWAP MEET



**Oneth by land - Twoeth by Mel**

March -the end of hardwater ice fishing and excellent open water crappie fishing. Mel with two from a boat at Lake Egypt. Johnny with one from ice.

## Join Riverside Fishing Club

Join us for our streaming meetings. You can also join us on a regular phone! Check club emails for a link to the meeting. **Don't have a computer? Get in touch with Tony Novak!** Group 1b includes seniors, Veterans in Illinois. You should be in line through the VA - for vaccinations. Try several locations to get an appointment. This will make things more safe for you and in-person club meetings to resume. We will continue to be streaming meetings for the short term! New members welcome! Fishing will pick up with open water around the corner! Ice fishermen - use caution and we will see you at a meeting SOON!

## 2021 Dues, MWO Extended

Current Members – 2021 Memberships: The Riverside Fishing Club Board unanimously agreed to extend the current 2020 memberships into next year until such time as in-person live member meetings resume. Your Board will determine when we would restart membership dues payments and also decide on the amount of dues for the 2021 period. Also the Board agreed to continue current member's Midwest Outdoors Magazine subscriptions, until next year's membership renewals are due. (This is one of our club perks). **No need to renew your memberships at this time** – you are and will be current until further notice via email or phone call.

## March - A New Beginning

Every March I look forward to not only the spring thaw but seeing that first yellow dandelion flower. It signals a new beginning, the promise of warming water and open water fishing. It is definitely time to take a new look at your your rods, reel and tackle. I would suggest you look at your equipment with a critical eye. Would you buy your current tackle if you were shopping for something new? Does the reel handle stick, is the line coming off the spool in tight coils? Would you spend your hard earned dollars on those expensive lures with the rusted hooks? What about rods, do they have missing guides or does the line get hung up on the tip. We've all spent a lot of our hard earned money on our equipment. It might be time to give your old tackle a new beginning!

Hopefully this spring will be back to normal for opening the cooling lakes and Heidicke. The fishing on these lakes should be outstanding this year. These lakes were closed last year during the prime, early fishing season. Fish grow fast in the warm water of the cooling lakes. Another year of growth could result in some real trophy fish. On the cooling lakes concentrate on the areas closest to the warm water discharge. I usually troll shad imitation lures. Shad is the main forage base in all these lakes, even Heidicke.

March is also prime river fishing time. Last year the state parks and many launches

were closed during the spring spawning run of Sauger, walleye and white bass. This year the fish should be bigger and more plentiful. I love jig fishing. You don't have to use jigs when jig fishing. Blade baits can be excellent jiggging tools. A sharp vertical lift puts out a lot of vibration, attracting fish from a distance. The fish usually hit on the fall. Fished this way the falling baits look like dying or injured baitfish. Another great tool is tried and true Kastmaster spoon. They are heavy for their size and cast a mile. I use a lift drop retrieve which again imitates dying baitfish. If the rivers are high and dirty nothing beats live bait on a jig. Keep the lifts short and the bait on the bottom. March is Coho salmon time! From New Buffalo to Waukegan the fish are on our end of the lake. If the lakefront is open nothing beats using a power line to put some tasty coho on the dinner plate. Rods and reel works well too, you just can't put as many hooks in the water. Shallow crank baits and spoons kept within five feet of the surface will get the job done.

Like all of you I am hoping we can start the in person club meetings soon. I miss seeing my friends and all the fishing stories. Please be safe, we are almost at the finish line.

See you on the water.

Dan

**Dan Carney**

Lifetime Member

The Board meets online, virtually and in person using safety protocols.

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**RiversideFishingClub.com Individual & Family Memberships Available**