

## Our September speaker was former club president Duffy Kopf

Duffy's presentation was polished and concise, with commented hand outs of his slides and a bunch of appropriate pike fishing gear. Teaching high school for 37 years and presenting at numerous fishing seminars may have something to do with it. I include many of his self-explanatory slides with a few comments. His goal was to have us understand the factors in Pike behavior, be exposed to seasonal Pike periods, be able to pick out the basic spots on Mendota, and be familiar with some pike equipment and baits. If you want a copy of the slides just let him know.



### Pike Seasonal Periods

- Pre-spawn
- Spawn
- Post Spawn
- Pre-summer
- Summer peak
- Summer
- Post summer
- Turnover
- Cold water



For Pre-spawn look for shallows and weeds. Pike will spawn under ice, triggered by both daylight and water

### Post Spawn

- Mid 50' s
- Pike still feed actively
- Look for emerging lily pads, new weeds, rock
- Generally smaller lures



### Spawn

- Can be under ice
- Pike need ice or frigid conditions to stimulate egg production
- Spawn generally 39-46 degrees – can vary
- Usually 10-14 days-triggers: length of daylight, current, water temperature
- Male come in first in great numbers
- Must have vegetation for the eggs to stick to
- All pike do not spawn at the same time



### Pre-Summer

- Mid 50' s – 60
- Pike feed constantly
- Look for shoreline points near fast dropoff
- Different sized pike behave differently and inhabit different areas
- Pike feed primarily during daylight (dark, overcast, chop)
- Pike feed on most available food source
- Pike group by size – consistent patterns emerge



*Continued next page*

### Summer Peak



- Usually during summer solstice
- Span of relatively calm, first hot weather
- Mid 60' s – low 70' s
- Large pike become hard to find
- Look for cooler water-food source
- Small pike probably shallow all year
- Even intermediate sized pike stay away from 70' s

### Coldwater

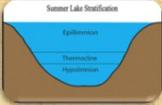


- Low 50' s – freeze up
- Pike stay active despite reduced metabolism
- Fish slower
- Early=crankbaits - later vertical jigs, tubes, livebait
- Steep dropoffs
- Deep flats with weeds near deepest part of lake
- Pike usually concentrated and bite well, but much slower

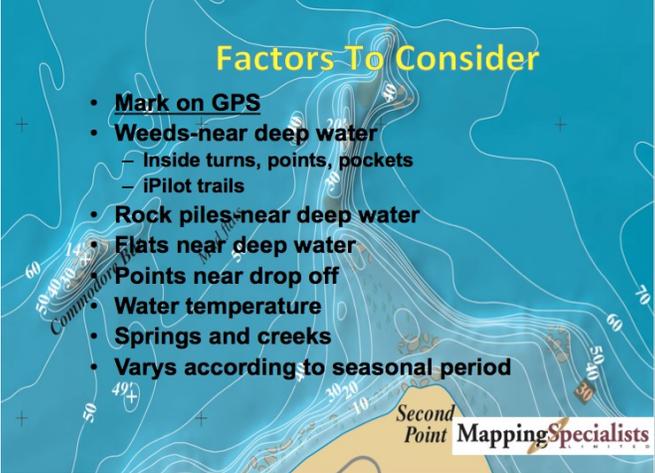
### Summer



- Maximum temps
- Large pike usually in deep, cooler water
- Troll
- Become selective – plenty of food available
- **Thermocline** strong in deep lakes
- Fish near springs and creek entrances – cooler water
- Extreme heat lowers metabolism



### Factors To Consider



- **Mark on GPS**
- **Weeds-near deep water**
  - Inside turns, points, pockets
  - iPilot trails
- **Rock piles-near deep water**
- **Flats near deep water**
- **Points near drop off**
- **Water temperature**
- **Springs and creeks**
- **Varys according to seasonal period**

### Post-Summer




- Cooling from maximum temps
- Cooler nights and less daylight
- Food sources reduced and plants start to decline
- Preyfish shift locations and reduced in number
- Reduced cover for prey
- Cooler water and large pike can go shallow
- Remain in feeding areas longer

Duffy likes Muskie rods like the Fenwick Elite Tech or heavy duty bass rods like the Abu Garcia Veritas and Vendetta.. For bass reels the Abu Garcia Revfo5, In-shore, For Muskie type rods the Abu Garcia Revo Rocket or Beast. Line suggestions are Spiderwire stealth #30 and heavier or Spiderwire Invisibraid #30-#50.. Duffy likes to use 30# and heavier fluorocarbon or fluorocarbon and steel leaders, .

Thanks to Duffy for a great presentation!

Plug for the Muskie Expo

Thanks to you and your club for the warm welcome, I look forward to meeting more of your club members in the future! I am local so don't be afraid to shout out to me, if there is any thing I can do for you guys.

Mike Veserat

Mike Veserat,  
It's a great day to fish!



<https://muskieexpo.com/> <https://fishexpos.com/>  
608.220.7392

## Notes from the Prez

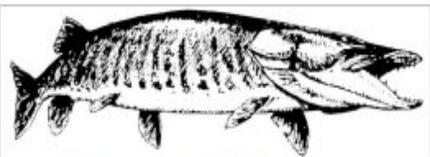
Holy mackerel! Where has the summer gone? It's been consumed far too much by distractions which have taken time from recreational pursuits in general and fishing in particular. We've had some pretty crazy weather at times, with lots of rain early in the summer, and hot, dry conditions over the past couple of months. Lately the water in the Madison lakes has been slow to cool, delaying the start of the more active fall feeding by the fish. A couple of weeks ago, the water temperature in Lake Mendota had finally fallen below 70°, and then two weekends ago it was up above 76°, and back down just below 70° again this past weekend. Club resident experts like Duffy Kopf tell me water temperatures need to go down quite a bit to stimulate fall feeding activity. Our June on-the-water meeting was cancelled due to a severe thunderstorm warning for the early evening, and one of the other two on-the-water meetings had to be postponed for a day for much the same inclement weather-related difficulties. Nonetheless, the July and August meetings on Lakes Monona and Waubesa ultimately proved to be successful, with good food, and well-attended (though unfortunately, not very many fish were caught, according to the reports I received, as well as my own experience). All that said, there's still close to two months of fall fishing ahead of us, and efforts are in the works to organize trips to the Milwaukee harbor for salmon fishing, and to Clement's Fishing Barge in Genoa to fish for whatever species are active on any given day. I'm certainly not putting my fishing gear away just yet.

We enjoyed a new Club event the last Sunday in September. I refer to the first annual YFC Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, held at Mendota County Park, with food provided by the Club and by the

many members who brought a dish to pass. All Club members were welcome, and particularly those who had over the past year volunteered their time and efforts to support the Club's activities, including the two Kids Fishing events, the Club's presence at the Fishing Expo, the Club fundraising raffle, our on-the-water meetings, among other things. We had a very nice turnout (more than 50 people) for the picnic, and lots of good food and fellowship. Thanks to those who attended, and particularly those who helped organize the event and provide all of the good food.

Looking ahead, let's be sure to mark our calendars and plan to attend the Club's Annual Meeting (in November, if memory serves me correctly), at which we will elect people to replace Board members and officers who have retired, or whose terms are ending. Any Club member with some time and energy is eligible to serve on the Club's Board of Directors. We want to have a really good turnout of members to choose the group that guides the Club's activities, particularly at a time where we face the challenges of getting the Club's membership growing again, and keeping the level of member participation in the Club's activities at a high level. During the remainder of this year, we'll also be "reloading" for 2018, getting a start on planning and organizing for the Club's activities in January and February, including Kids' Ice Fishing Day, the Club Auction, and our participation in the Fishing Expo. There's plenty of work to do, and the Club always needs the help of more members with energy and fresh ideas to insure the continuing success of our organization!

Gard



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Mary Regel Helps Us  
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Once more Mary has donated \$500.00 towards the Kids Fishing Days from the Rod Regel Memorial Fund.

Thank You Mary!

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**Kids fishing clinic** organized by Gary Schutte

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## Request for recipes

It was suggested that club members may have recipes, not necessarily just for fish, that they want to share. If you have a receipt you would like published in the newsletter just email it to me. [tomraschke50@gmail.com](mailto:tomraschke50@gmail.com)

## October Speaker

Long-time Yahara Fishing Club member and fisherman extraordinaire Paul Zoch will be speaking on **pan fishing the Yahara chain.** I can't imagine anyone more knowledgeable and with the demonstrated success at this.

## YFC Kid's fishing day raffle 2018

We've already started getting some great prizes for our raffle at the WI Fishing Expo 2/25/18. We need YOUR HELP selling raffle tickets and getting prizes too! If you would like to donate a prize or know of a business that may donate something to our club please let me know. We will be handing out tickets to sell at our October 11th club meeting and will do so every month until the expo. You can also get tickets by making special arrangements with me at any time.

Top prize \$1000, second prize \$500 plus many other great prizes.

Let's make this our best raffle ever!

Jim Pankratz

608-709-6442 or [jimannepan@aol.com](mailto:jimannepan@aol.com)



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# Outings

Milwaukee Harbor outing October 21

Clements Fishing Barge in Genoa on Mississippi anytime from now till November 12

Shore fishing for walleyes Tenney Park November 11 or 18th

First ice panfish outing December or January

Sturgeon Bay Whitefish outing likely February 9-11, 2018

**Want to go on an outing? Want to get to know other club members? Want to fish locally or new lakes out of town chasing the hottest bite? Have a place you want to go to? Then you simply need to sign up to say you're interested in going on any or all of these outings. An outing can happen with enough interest but if no one signs up then the outing can't happen. Outings without exact dates are either weather dependent, river levels and based on the timing of the bite. Once you're signed up you will get more specific details of the trip.**

**Outings anywhere anytime:** I'm looking for recommendations on trips that you would like to do. Let me know and I can try to set something up!

**Louisiana:** We have club members wanting an outing chasing redfish and tuna. Contact me if interested so we can set this up!

**Lake Erie:** Want to go on a walleye, smallmouth or perch outing on Lake Erie this summer or next summer? Contact me.

**Canada-** If you want to go to Canada this winter or next summer NOW is the time to prepare! We have several resorts to choose from. Eagle Lake? How about Rainy Lake? Lake of the Woods? Lac Seul? Get excited and let's start planning a trip of a lifetime!

**USA-** Canada too far or other reasons? How about traveling within the US to the Minnesota sides of Lake of the Woods or Rainy Lake? Devil's Lake? Lake Oahe, SD? Lake Gogebic, MI? How about our Big Bay de Noc outing? Green Bay?

**Guided trips on local lakes, Green Bay/Sturgeon Bay or others:** If anyone would like to learn a lake better or techniques with a guide, join other club members to get a better rate. Contact me if interested.

All outings above are open to club members, our Rock Valley Angler friends, your family and friends! We need members with boats but you can participate even if you don't have one. Sign-ups will be at club meetings but also on Facebook or through club emails. As always you can contact me at any time to sign-up or if you have questions or just want advice.

If you have any outing ideas please let me or anyone on the board know!

Jim Pankratz      608-709-6442 or [jimannepan@aol.com](mailto:jimannepan@aol.com)

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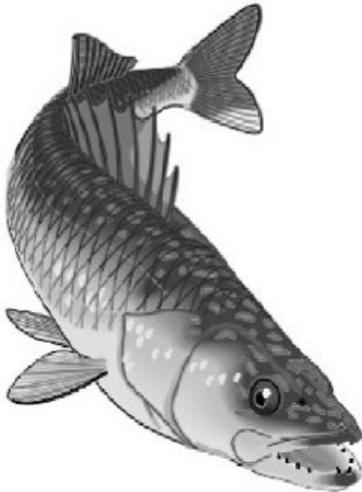
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Check out our web page at: [www.yaharafishingclub.org](http://www.yaharafishingclub.org)

### Yahara Fishing Club Membership Form

P.O. Box 3271 Madison, WI 53704

Annual Dues are from January 1 to December 31. Please print. \*\*\* ESSENTIAL

Name \*\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

If Family or Youth, Additional Names \_\_\_\_\_

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The next YFC meeting is Wednesday, October ,11th  
7:00 pm at the VFW Hall 301 Cottage Grove Road  
Speaker Paul Zoch

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### October Events

October 11th, 2017, Regular club meeting at the VFW hall at 301 Cottage Grove Road

Club member Paul Zoch will speak on pan fishing the Yahara chain

### November Events

November 8th, 2017, Regular club meeting at the VFW hall at 301 Cottage Grove Road

### Board of Directors and Officers

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Tom Wilke, Speakers

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Phil James, Vice President

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