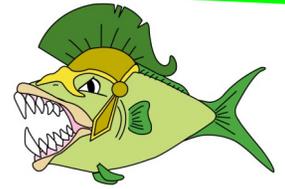




Spartan Fishing Team



For all the latest news and information on the Spartan Fishing Team, be sure to check out our teams [website!](#)
 The best way to contact Coach Kuchyt is through email: ckuchyt@olchs.org

Spartans Host 45 Boat High School Bass Tournament

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Spring Tackle Box Cleaning	1
Rayjus Outdoors—Oak Lawn High School Bass Tournament	3
My Day at the Spartan Bass Tournament	4
Volunteering at Lake Katherine	6
About the Spartan Fishing Newsletter	7
Winterizing Your Fishing Gear	11
Recipe of the Month	12
Fun Fish Fact	15

The Spartans, along with Unique Bassmasters and Rayjus Outdoors, hosted the **Rayjus Outdoors—Oak Lawn Community High School Bass Tournament** this past fall. With 45 boats representing 23 high schools and over 170 kids participating in the event, this was one of the largest high school fall fishing tournaments. You can read about the tournament and see the results by checking out pages 3 and 4. Page 4 also highlights sophomore anglers **Jon Metelski's** tournament experience.

This past June, Spartan anglers volunteered their time to help young kids enjoy the outdoors. **Lauren Cappel** wrote a wonderful story about team members helping young children enjoy the art of angling.

Finally, now that the winter season is here, it is time to winterize your fishing gear! Sophomore student **Hubert Wasilewski** offers some great



Jon Metelski and Andy Jensen hold up their 8th place catch at the Rayjus Outdoors-Oak Lawn High School Bass Tournament..

suggestions on what you can do to keep your fishing rods and reels in tip top shape for next year. Hubert's article is featured on page 11 along with a picture of **Alexis Kosek** holding about a three foot bull snake. Notice Coach Kuchyt is not in the picture with her, or even the same zip code for

that matter!

Last but not least, this issue's *Recipe of the Month* is baked parmesan perch! Learn how to make this delectable dish on page 12. Also, check out our fun fish fact and video of the month on page 15. Enjoy!

Spring Tackle Box Cleaning

Winter is a time for most anglers to sort through their fishing gear and prepare for the upcoming fishing season. As you sort through your gear to make room for new lures, hooks and weights, rods, and reels, please consider donating your old fishing gear to the Spartan Fishing Team.

The kids on the team are between the ages of 14-17 years old and many

of these young anglers are eager to learn more about fishing but lack they lack adequate gear for an enjoyable experience on the water.

Donated gear is usually raffled during team meetings, used as prize incentives, or awarded to anglers that write articles for this newsletter.

If you have fishing gear that you would like to donate to the team, please

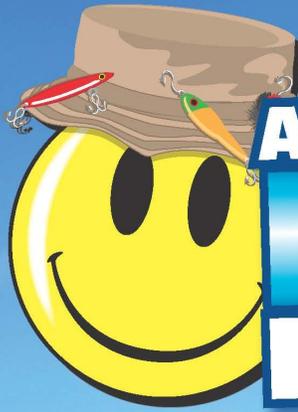
contact **Coach Kuchyt** at ckuchyt@olchs.org

Tip of the Month

For better sensitivity when fishing with an artificial lure, hold your rod tip low and to the side, keeping the angle between rod and line at about 90 degrees.



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Rayjus Outdoors—Oak Lawn High School Bass Tournament

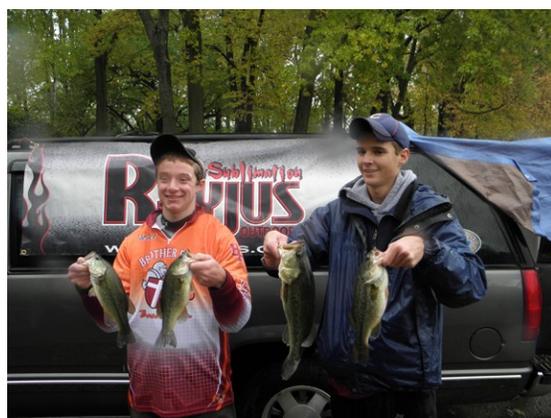
On October 13, 2012, [Oak Lawn Community High School](#) and [Rayjus Outdoors](#) hosted the [Rayjus Outdoors-Oak Lawn High School Bass Tournament](#) on the Kankakee/Des Plaines River at the Des Plaines Conservation Area. Over 170 students from 23 high schools across northern Illinois took part in the event, making this one of the largest high school fishing tournaments in Illinois! The weigh-in was conducted by the [Illinois Bass Federation Nation](#) and Unique Bassmasters.

Competition between the 45 boats taking part in the tournament was fierce despite the cold, windy, rainy weather. Many kids fought the elements to catch their fish, but it was **Matt Caulfield** and **Jimmy Ciurej** of **Brother Rice High School** that took home the first place trophy. **Jimmy Ciurej** also caught the big bass of the tournament, which weighed in at 2.50 pounds!

Each of the 45 boats that took the kids fishing was given a bottle of [Marine Formula Stabil](#) that was provided by [Gold Eagle](#) and the [Fishing and Outdoor Radio Show](#). The [Bass Pro Shops](#) (Bolingbrook, Illinois) provided weigh-in bags for all the teams as well as a framed art piece that was given to the big bass winner. Rayjus Outdoors provided “goody bags” filled with products from [Mercury Marine](#), [Lake Fork Tackle](#), [Power Team Lures](#), and [Custom Cast Lures](#) to the kids taking part in the event. [Bedford Sales](#) also supported the event. Rayjus Outdoors also create a highlight video of the event that you can view by clicking the YouTube icon.



First Place winners Jimmy Ciurej and Matt Caulfield of Brother Rice High School.



Left: Big Bass winner Jimmy Ciurej of Brother Rice High School.



Left: Jon Metelski and Andy Jensen from Oak Lawn Community High School with their 8th place catch.



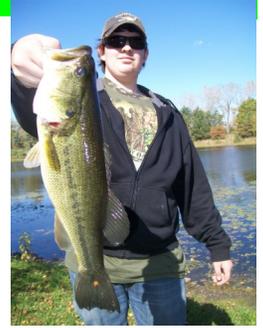
My Day at the Spartan Bass Tournament - By Jonathan Metelski (grade 10)

Beep! Beep! Beep! The sound of my alarm that I have come to dread, but not today, Today I am waking up at 4:40am. I am not dreading the noise because I know that I am competing in the Spartan Fishing Tournament. I gather up all my tackle and various supplies that I would need for the day. I am running late, the time is 4:50 and the bus is scheduled to leave at 5:00. I run out to my car and hurry to the school, luckily the school is right across the street. I get to the school and I see my teammates loading the bus. Fortunately, they were running a few minutes late as well! We are finally set to go. On our way to the Des Plaines Conservation Area, we eat a few donuts, compliments of Coach Kuchyt.

About an hour later, we arrived at the Des Plaines Conservation Area. After arriving and meeting Mr. Orbin, the man sponsoring our boat for the day, my partner Andy and I grabbed our gear and quickly put it on the boat and got organized. With a quick glance up, I notice the mellow 6am sunrise just starting to break through the dense trees and overcast sky. I knew we were in for rain. Our boat was the second boat to take off to launch so after quick announcements, we took off for our first spot. We arrived at our first spot; we were casting the weed line. I was using a spinner bait and Andy was using a plastic worm bouncing the bottom. After not catching anything at the first spot, we

moved on to an enormous weed flat. I cast towards the branch and on the second cast, I catch the first fish of the day, and it's a keeper.

After covering the area and not catching anymore fish, we ran down the river to the next spot. I quickly caught several shorts. As the weather started to turn bad we decided we wanted to get closer to the launch in case of bad weather. Before we left, I made another few quick casts and caught the second keeper of the day. We started back down the river. When we got to our next spot, it was raining heavily. I put the rain cover on my tackle bag, and continued fishing. After not catching anything, we decided to go back to the large weed flat. The rain stung our cheeks as we drove down the river in the boat. When we got back to that spot, again we caught nothing and went back to our first spot where I caught some more shorts and Andy caught one keeper. Time was running out and luckily, our last spot was near the boat launch and we fished till the last second in hopes of one more fish to no avail. After coming back and weighing our bag, we took eighth place out of 45 boats. It was an awesome experience.



Place	School	Anglers	Number of Fish	Live Fish	Big Bass	Total Weight
1	Brother Rice	Matt Caulfield-Jimmy Ciurej	5	5	2.50	7.43
2	Geneva	Sam Vogelsberg-Matt D'Onofrio	4	4	2.16	6.02
3	Brother Rice	Joe Hayes-Brendan Moriarty	4	4	1.76	5.90
4	Minooka	Dan DeGroet-Camryon Kenay	4	4	1.27	4.78
5	Minooka	Noah Arnold-Blake Bohler	4	4	1.27	4.67
6	Naperville Central	Kit Benson-Chapman Curtis	3	3	1.74	4.33
7	Team Ryan	Ryan Kwiecinski-Eathan Goldstien	3	3	1.78	3.79
8	Oak Lawn	Jon Metelski-Andy Jensen	3	3	1.46	3.72
9	Providence Catholic	Matt Bomba-Duke Hill	2	2	1.67	3.22
10	Lemont	Jack Lambert-Ben Stech-Trevor Nappier	2	2	1.25	2.25
11	Lemont	Sam Grasman-Jake Reitz-Chris Aiello-Connor Brady	1	1	-	2.23
12	Sandwich	Austin Hellyer-Tom Ostreko	2	2	1.15	2.02
13	DeLaSalle	Nick Dycus-Tim Quigley-Vince Scalise-Robert Malloy	1	1	-	1.83
14	Grayslake	Trevor Sanderson-Ryan Kirkpatrick	1	1	-	1.64
15	Seneca	Brandon Webs-Dan Holmes	1	1	-	1.48
16	Downers Grove South	Tomoki Kamitani-Kristian Lech-Andrew Wong-Matt Barker	1	1	-	1.44
17	Seneca	Brady Wyss-Nick Kirkton	1	1	-	1.33
18	Lemont	Luke Jasper-Jake Lepczynski	1	1	-	1.28
19	St. Laurence	Zach Marcolinie-Sonny Murvizzi	1	1	-	1.17
20	Lake Park	Zach Olk-Kyle Zurek-Mitch Cummins-Matt Bednash	1	1	-	1.09
21	Lemont	Jeremy Hutton-Chase Kobilca-Tommy Rimbo-Joe Sciacca	1	1	-	1.02
22	Sandwich	Kevin Huhn-TJ Powel	1	1	-	.92
Big Bass Winner – Jimmy Ciurej (Brother Rice H.S.) – 2.5lbs						
Creature Fish Winner – Cody Frega (Oak Lawn Community High School) (carp 3.11lbs)						

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Volunteering at Lake Katherine by Lauren Cappel (grade 11)

In June of this past summer, a few of the kids from the team went to volunteer at [Lake Katharine](#) in Palos Park, IL. We went there to help young kids try to catch fish.

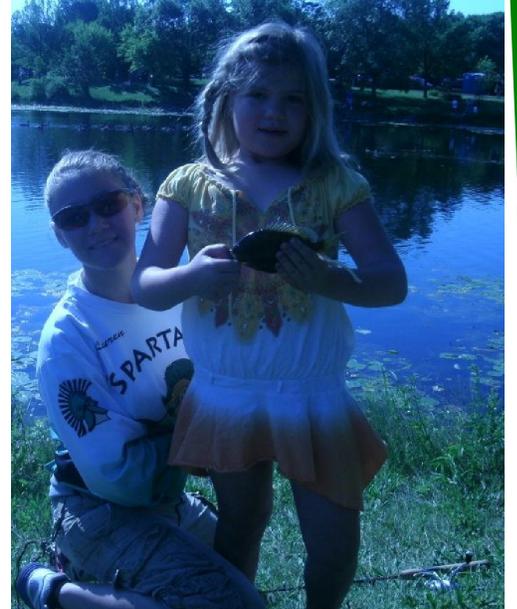
There was one family there that we helped out the most. The father didn't really know how to fish so he asked us to help his children out. He had a boy and a girl who really liked fishing. There were a lot of people were catching frogs so I was helping them take the frogs off of their hooks it was a lot of fun.

A lot of nice sized bass were caught that day. A couple nice sized catfish were also caught. Many kids had a lot of fun catching bluegills, catfish, bass and some caught frogs on accident. I actually helped take the frogs off for my little cousin because she was scared of the frog. It was funny because the frog was making noises and tried jumping on my cousin.

To me, this was an inspiring experience because I got to help a family who really needed it. The boy and girl were able to catch a lot of bluegill and after each one they caught, the smile on their face was priceless. Even my mom

was proud of us for volunteering our time to help children who wanted to learn how to fish. There were a lot of families there that really liked to catch fish and some of them helped others too. We stayed to the end and helped clean up and take down the tents after the event. We all appreciated the opportunity to help the little kids.

When we finished, we all sat and relaxed, ate hotdogs and drank pop. It was a long day for us so we had some time to ourselves to talk and catch up on things. Actually, Alexis caught a bull snake with her hands and it was cool. A lot of people were taking pictures of her holding the snake. It's actually a very cool snake. You can check out her picture with the snake on page 11. So we got to help kids fish and we got to fish a little bit. It was fun to give back.



About the Spartan Fishing Newsletter...

The Spartan Fishing Team Newsletter serves as the teams primary fundraiser. Thanks to the generous businesses and organizations that advertise with us, the team is able to raise funds to provide fishing scholarships and opportunities to participants. The best way to support our team is by supporting our sponsors. Please print the ad's and coupons in the newsletter and use them often and please thank these businesses for supporting the Spartan Fishing Team!

The articles in the newsletter are written by students about their experiences in the outdoors. Some students have chosen to write about outdoor topics of interest while others have written about their experiences fishing. As a team, we promote and discuss the outdoor

lifestyle, everything from fishing to camping to hunting. Our interactive newsletter offers students a great opportunity to refine their writing skills while sharing their outdoor experiences with the community and promoting wonderful businesses/organizations.

The newsletter is released on a quarterly basis via the [Oak Leaflet](#) (our high school's weekly e-correspondence with parents) and the teams [website](#). You can also find our newsletter by searching "Spartan Fishing Team" on the internet. We offer a fall, winter, spring, and summer edition. If your business or organization would like to become involved with the Spartan Fishing Team, please contact Coach Kuchyt at ckuchyt@olchs.org to discuss a partnership.

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- 9 Egg Nog Brickle
- 10 Chocolate Dream
- 11 Turtle
- 12 Coconut Chocolate Almond Crunch
- 13 Just Drummy
- 14 Double Marshmallow Oreo
- 15 Chocolate Caramel Twist
- 16 Rocky Road
- 17 Double Strawberry
- 18 Turtle Dove
- 19 Chocolate Oreo Volcano
- 20 Salted Double Caramel Pecan
- 21 Crazy for Cookie Dough
- 22 Really Reese's
- 23 Caramel Cashew
- 24 Bonfire S'mores
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- 28 Brownie Thunder
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- 30 Chocolate Éclair
- 31 Egg Nog Brickle

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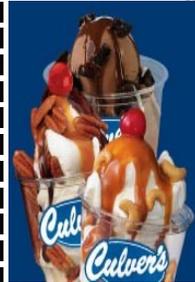


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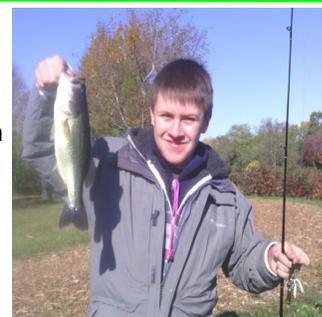
Winterizing Your Fishing Gear By Hubert Wasilewski (grade 10)

Oh gosh! Look what time of the year it is once again. It's the middle of fall and a lot of you know what that means. That's right, its time to winterize your gear so it is ready for the spring time. A lot of you think that your gear will be fine and that nothing has to be adjusted, but you are wrong. There is always something to be tweaked. I believe the most important thing to check is your line. That is what connects you to the fish. If that line is frayed you must cut it off. I go fishing a lot and I know the line gets frayed so I change it every spring. If you put some fresh line on recently, you should spray some [Reel Magic](#) line conditioner. It will help your fishing line last longer.

You aren't done yet. The next thing you have to check are your guides. Now during the manufacturing of the rod they might have used to much cement to hold it in place and it cracked or the guide just slipped out of place. I had this happen to me a couple of times and its not that big of a worry. A simple fix is a small dispenser of super glue (which you should have in your tackle box) and just glue it back into place. And when you are done with gluing it back on make sure you cap the glue right or you might just glue it to your tackle box like I did.

Now to the fun part-the reel. It is one of those things that people don't always like to mess with but they have to. It's the only part on the rod that has so many moving parts. Before I do anything to the reel I always give it a simple cast or two to check how the gears are working and if I feel something wrong. If there is something wrong, I check to find the problem. You could get the gunk out of the gears with a brush or what I like to use is a compressed air can. You could get them at any Walgreens store and they come with a hose to fit in those tight spaces. Once you get all that out, just lubricate it and see how it feels. There is just one last thing to do to with your reel before you put it away and it's probably the most simple and important thing to do on your reel. You have to loosen the drag all the way because there is a little spring on the inside which controls that drag and over time it will stiff out and you will have to replace it and that's just a pain. So this saves you time so that means you could be at the lake longer. So in

this article, I have explained how to store, fix, and maintain your fishing gear for the long winter. Hope you enjoyed the article and hope you catch some keepers in the spring. Good luck!



Alexis Kosek with a bull snake she picked up on a team outing.



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An advertisement for Spitfire Automotive. The top part features the 'SPITFIRE AUTOMOTIVE' logo in red and white, with a Goodyear blimp logo to the right. Below the logo is a photograph of the Spitfire Automotive service center at night, with the word 'SERVICE' in large red letters above the entrance. At the bottom, there is text: 'Quality Automotive Repair • 708-425-2500' and '10711 S. Cicero • Oak Lawn, IL • www.SpitfireAuto.com'.

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Recipe of the Month: Baked Parmesan Perch

Ingredients

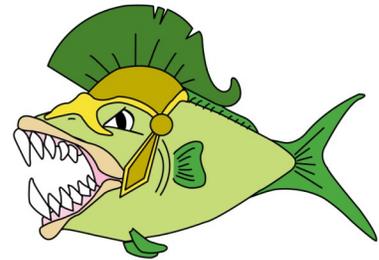
- 2 tablespoons *dry bread crumbs*
- 1 tablespoon *grated Parmesan cheese*
- 1 tablespoon *paprika*
- 1 teaspoon *dried basil*
- 1 *pound perch or fish fillets* of your choice
- 1 *tablespoon butter, melted*



Directions

In a shallow bowl, combine the bread crumbs, Parmesan cheese, paprika and basil. Brush fish fillets with butter, then dip into the crumb mixture. Place in a greased baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 500° for 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork. **Yield:** 4 servings.

Source: <http://www.tasteofhome.com/Recipes/Baked-Parmesan-Perch>



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Fish Tales Fishing Club

Fish Tales Fishing Club consists of a group of individuals who love to fish. The goal of this family oriented group is to increase angler knowledge. Meetings with guest speakers to discuss fishing tips and techniques are held on the third Thursday of each month . The group meets at the Bremen Township Building located at 15350 South Oak Park Ave in Oak Forest.

For more information on *Fish Tales*, please visit their website at:

<http://www.fishtalesfishingclub.com/>



Midwest Musky Club

5201 West 115th Street

Alsip, IL 60655

www.midwestmuskyclub.com

Meetings: We meet on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30PM
@ The Village Sportsman's Club (5201 W. 115th Street, Alsip, IL).

No admission fee; free food (although donations are appreciated);
Great fishing speakers; Monthly raffle; Club fishing outings throughout the Midwest & one Canadian summer trip; Monthly newsletter;
Reasonably priced membership fees (families are always welcomed to join).

It shall be the object of the Midwest Musky Club to:

1. Preserve and propagate Midwest musky fishing,
2. Be involved in conservation efforts,
3. Educate & refine the members' skill in the sport of musky fishing
4. Practice good sportsmanship and safety afloat,
5. Sponsor group activities related to the sport of fishing
6. Observe the rules and regulations of the various Departments of Conservation and National Resources of the states in which members' fish.

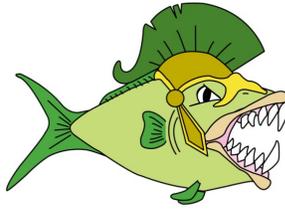
Feel free to attend one of our meetings (bring your family & friends along) & expand your fishing knowledge!



Oak Lawn Community High School
Spartan Fishing Team c/o Chris Kuchyt
 9400 Southwest Hwy.
 Oak Lawn, IL 60453

E-mail: ckuchyt@olchs.org

About our logo...



The Spartan Fishing Team logo was created and designed by **Matt Jensen**. Matt graduated from Oak Lawn Community High School in 2010.



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Fish Fact

Anemone fishes live in groups where the two largest fish only are sexually mature, the largest being female and the next largest male. If the female dies, the male changes sex to female and the next largest fish in the group matures to male. If the animated film "Finding Nemo," had been true to life, Nemo's dad, Marlin, should have become Nemo's mother shortly after his original mother was eaten by a barracuda.

Source: <http://smithsonianscience.org/2012/01/live-funky-and-5-fun-fish-facts/>

Spartan Fishing Team Scholarships

The **Spartan Fishing Team**, through the generous contributions of [Oak Lawn Happy Hyundai](#), is proud to announce that it will award a **\$250 scholarship** to a junior or senior member of the 2012–2013 fishing team. Qualifications for these scholarships as well as an application can be obtained directly from Coach Kuchyt. Please patronize the establishments of our sponsors, because it is with their help that we are able to offer these scholarships and unique outdoor experiences to the kids. The team would like to thank **Oak Lawn Happy Hyundai** and our other sponsors for their support.

Fishing Quote

Lots of people committed crimes during the year who would not have done so if they had been fishing. The increase of crime is among those deprived of the regenerations that impregnate the mind and character of the fisherman.
 ~Herbert Hoover



[Video of the Month](#) [Winter Fishing Tips](#)

