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**Oct. 27th, 2012**

### Lake Conditions

**Lake Levels ...** As of this morning both lakes approximately 2.75 feet below summer pool and on a steady drawdown over the next several days. For additional info, including generation schedule for Kentucky Lake, visit the TVA website: [http://www.tva.gov/lakes/kyh\\_r.htm](http://www.tva.gov/lakes/kyh_r.htm)

**Water Clarity and Temperature ...** on Kentucky Lake ranges from light stain in some of the creeks with the main lake clear. The lake is very fishable. Barkley is lightly stained and the lake is very fishable. Surface water temps on both lakes are in the low to mid 60's.

### Weather Outlook

**Friday...** Showers in the morning...Then a chance of showers in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 50s. North winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

**Friday Night...** Partly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of showers in the evening. Lows in the upper 30s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday...** Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday Night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. North winds 5 to 10 mph.

**Sunday...** Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s.

**Sunday Night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s.

**Monday...** Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s.

**Monday Night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs in the mid 50s.

### Prime Feeding Times for Gilbertsville, KY 42044

Date	Temps	Sun Data	Moon Data	Moon Phase	Major Times	Minor Times	Prediction
Friday 10/26/12	H: 58° L: 54°	Rise: 7:11 AM Set: 6:01 PM	Rise: 4:14 PM Set: 4:10 AM Overhead: 10:39 PM Underfoot: 10:17 AM	91% Waxing Gibbous	10:17 AM - 12:17 PM 10:39 PM - 12:39 AM	4:10 AM - 5:10 AM 4:14 PM - 5:14 PM	Good
Saturday 10/27/12	H: 56° L: 43°	Rise: 7:12 AM Set: 6:00 PM	Rise: 4:44 PM Set: 5:09 AM Overhead: 11:23 PM Underfoot: 11:01 AM	96% Waxing Gibbous	11:01 AM - 1:01 PM 11:23 PM - 1:23 AM	5:09 AM - 6:09 AM 4:44 PM - 5:44 PM	Better
Sunday 10/28/12	H: 56° L: 37°	Rise: 7:13 AM Set: 5:59 PM	Rise: 5:17 PM Set: 6:06 AM Overhead: --:-- Underfoot: 11:45 AM	99% Waxing Gibbous	--:-- --:-- 11:45 AM - 1:45 PM	6:06 AM - 7:06 AM 5:17 PM - 6:17 PM	Better
Monday 10/29/12	H: 56° L: 34°	Rise: 7:14 AM Set: 5:58 PM	Rise: 5:51 PM Set: 7:03 AM Overhead: 12:08 AM Underfoot: 12:30 PM	100% FULL MOON	12:08 AM - 2:08 AM 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM	7:03 AM - 8:03 AM 5:51 PM - 6:51 PM	Best

## Fishing Report

**Bass Fishing ...** another wave of bass have moved into the creeks and bays in hot pursuit of the massive schools of shad. Working Spooks on top or jerking SPRO McSticks early in the shallows and along rock banks has produced some good fish. This bite can be great but fickle. Plan "B" is to cast shallow running crank baits, spinner baits and Steel Shad blade baits over shallow flats, paying special attention to where ditches and drains create an abrupt change in the bottom contour. It has been areas like this where some very good catches have been made. Don't rule out the ledge bite on the main river and at the mouth of the bays, it is still very productive. Shakey Heads (PJ's Bass Extractor & ZMan Finnesse Worms) and Steel Shad blade baits are the top producers. Think of it this way ... the fish have got to be located in one of the mentioned areas; it's just a process of elimination.

**Crappie Fishing ...** it's been either the best of times or just the opposite because of the wind. When you could hold a boat over brush and cast jigs or minnows on a slip bobber you could catch them. Most fish are coming out of brush or stake beds about 12 feet deep. A better method for us this week was to Long Line Troll in the Kick'n Bass Fishing Pontoon. Finding lee areas where wind wasn't a factor and trolling over submerged brush put a lot of really nice fish in the boat. Capt. Rich had several good trips this week in the Kick'n Bass Fishing Pontoon while others had fishless days. The Pontoon is set up nicely to cover a lot of water and present multiple lures which increases your odds of success. Below will give you more detail on how long line troll.

### "Long Line Trolling for Crappie with Kick'n Bass"



In October & November here on Kentucky Lake Long line Trolling is one of our "go to" methods. It's flat out a very productive way to fish and catch a good mess. *(Photo) Capt. Rich Bay with a couple of good crappie caught this week Long Line Trolling.*

**What is Long Line Trolling?** This method of fishing requires having a boat that is equipped with a trolling motor, fishing rods and holders. Our Kick'n Bass Fishing Pontoon is especially designed for this type of fishing. The trolling motor is particularly important because it will keep you moving at a consistent speed while trolling. You need a motor that will move the boat slowly because the slower you move the

better your fishing will be. Long line trolling uses multiple rod holders and a series of rods of various lengths to cover a wide area and depths. The rod holders in the front of the boat are positioned on both sides between the bow and console. Using multiple rod holders, a 16' rod is positioned to the outside, a 12' rod in the center and an 8' rod is placed closest to the boat. In the rear, rod holders are located port and starboard with 8' rods extending directly behind the boat. A 1/16 oz curly tail jig is the lure of choice and in most cases your favorite color will work. However, don't hesitate to experiment with different combinations of colors and sizes until you find one that seems to be getting the results you are hoping for. Line sizes vary but 6 pound monofilament seems to be the overall best choice. If crappie are located in deeper water or you're fishing in windy conditions, you may want to consider using a #5 or #7 split shot between two 1/16 oz lures placed about two feet apart. This will help keep the lures in the strike zone.

**Trolling Speed is more important than weight of the lure ...**

When long line trolling, maintaining accurate and constant speeds is the key to consistently catching crappie. Boat speed controls the depth of the lure, not the weight. Relying on GPS speed, we troll .8 to 1 mph using a Minn Kota Terrova GPS I-Pilot which allowed hands free operation and kept us at a good steady speed and course. When making a turn the speed is increased to keep the lures off the bottom. This can be significant since the inside lines tend to drop on the turn and getting a hook up signals a slower troll speed or depth change might be required to increase the odds in your favor. However, if you pick up a fish on the outside lines when the turn is made, remember that those lines are rising on the turn and you may need to increase the troll speed or shorten up the lines in order to decrease your depth.

**Keeping the lure in the strike zone ...** When long line trolling on Kentucky Lake I get asked quite often by my clients, when you do get a hook up how do you consistently return the lure back to the proper depth? One trick I learned a few years back is, once you hook a fish and before you reel it in, wrap a thin rubber band around the spool of the spinning reel. Doing so will mark the length of line that was out when the fish hit. When the jig is cast back out, the rubber band will stop the line on the spool and the jig will be exactly the same distance behind the boat and ride at the same depth. Make sure to use a small thin rubber band so the line will flow off the spool smoothly and not hinder the drag. This trick will work equally well for those of you that like to "spider rig" too!

**Some Do's and Don'ts ...** *Don't* overextend yourself by trying to use too many rods all at once. If you're by yourself four is plenty at one time. If you have other fishermen with you to help out you can troll as many lines as it is practical. *Don't* stop trolling if you get hung up, if you do all the lines will get hung up. *Don't* stop when you catch a fish ... keep trolling. *Do* use a long handle dip net like the extendable *Cummings C-120 fish saver net* ([www.cummingsnets.com](http://www.cummingsnets.com)). This net is very lightweight, extends to about 10 feet and with the opening being about the size of a drywall bucket, it's perfect for reaching out and netting crappie before they're able to tangle the other lines. *Do* keep your rod tip up when playing a fish; this will keep the fish coming heads up and away from the other lines. *Do* use light wire hooks in shallow weedy, snag infested waters so if you hang up all that is needed is a steady gentle pull and the jig will come free. *Last of all but certainly not least, when sharing an area with a lot of boats be sure and work with others and DON'T CUT OTHERS OFF or obstruct their troll. Be courteous and most likely they'll reciprocate.*

**Quality Rod Holders are the single most important accessory in this type of fishing!** Since you will be using multiple rods and hopefully getting multiple hookups, I cannot over emphasize how important it is to use the best possible rod holders. The only rod holders I'll use Trollmaxx Rod Holders (*formerly River Road Rod Holders 850-627-3822*). These rod holders are hand-made the old fashioned way. The reel holders and T-Bar support post are all stainless steel. The welds are flawless and the collar swivel attachments are allen-wrench adjustable so you can align the direction of the rods to meet your needs and then lock them into place. The base plate is high quality aluminum and the rod holder itself locks into the base plate using a stainless steel bolt and lock washer. All said and done you've got one tough and smart system that can be used in a variety of conditions and applications. There's several sizes and styles to choose from and you can check these out online [www.laketalquinlodge.com/gallery/tackleshop/](http://www.laketalquinlodge.com/gallery/tackleshop/) I've used these rod holders a LOT while guiding on Kentucky Lake and quite frankly I don't know how I'd ever do without them.

Long line trolling is becoming increasingly popular because is it's one of the fastest and easiest ways to find and catch crappie. You can catch several fish at once and have lots of fun in the process. If you haven't tried Long Line Trolling you're missing a real opportunity to put fish in the boat. With a little seat time you'll soon be catching fish like a veteran.

***SONAR TIP OF THE WEEK***



*This screen shot, shown in Map / Structurescan mode, was taken during one of our "On the Water Sonar Classes" this week. We found this school of crappie relating to isolated cover on a secondary ledge. We used Structurescan to identify the fish and then used the electronic map and "Go To" function to return to the sweet spot. Without the use of our Lowrance HDS System finding a high percentage location like this would not have been possible. Participate in Kick'n Bass "On the Water" sonar class and you'll learn how to use modern technology to find fishing hotspots like this. Having your system professionally programmed by a member of Lowrance's Pro Staff assures you that it's done right the first time. For your "On the water Sonar Class" contact Lowrance Pro Staffer Randy Kuhens at [rk@kicknbass.net](mailto:rk@kicknbass.net) you'll be glad you did!*

## **Here's what some of our clients are saying about Kick'n Bass' "On the Water" Sonar Class ...**

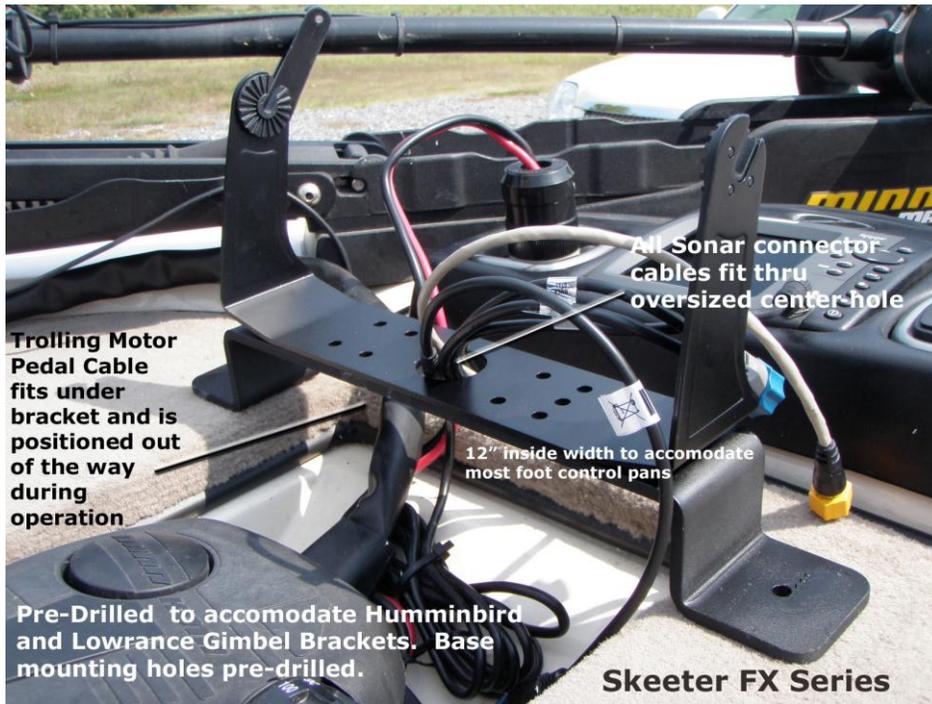
*Randy, I know I still have a long way to go but I can honestly say that I feel I made significant progress by taking your class. Although I primarily fish Lake Gunterville what I learned with you on KY Lake I'll be able to use anywhere I fish.*

*Paul Randall – Trussville, AL.*

*Randy, my brother in law Bob Thornton from Ohio did your sonar class back in the spring and he said it has helped him tremendously. Since then he's been emailing me photos of the big bass he's been catching on Erie. I'll be fishing KY Lake the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Nov. and I'd like to schedule a class with you.*

*Carl Burton – Bowling Green, OH.*

**(There are several opportunities to do classes in the immediate future. Now is the perfect time to schedule your time. Last Year more Sonar Classes were done between Oct. 20th – Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> than in any period. Call Now!)**



## **Introducing the Best Bow Mount Sonar Bracket Ever!**

Here's a Quality Product that really works! I have been field testing this product since March on my Ranger Z520. Once my HDS 10 was installed **I NEVER TOUCHED IT AGAIN!** Over 180 days of abuse including pounding waves, inclement weather, hits, bumps, scratches ... you name it this

baby can take it. The best news is once you adjust your sonar unit for best viewing you won't have to adjust it again, period! No more hassling with an overpriced bracket that won't support your sonar unit or clutter the deck of your boat. This product just makes too much sense for us anglers! **Check Out These Features ...**

- Made in the USA and machined from ¼ inch heavy duty aluminum with powdered coated finish for durability and good looks.
- Easy to install. Pre-drilled for both Lowrance and Humminbird gimbal brackets (Not included). All holes are 5/16 and base mounting holes are pre-drilled for your convenience.
- No more hassle with unsightly wires and that troublesome trolling motor cable. All Sonar connector cables fit thru oversized center hole and the Trolling Motor cable fits under the bracket and is positioned out of the way during operation and storage.



- 12 inch inside width plus 2 inch base flange on each side of bracket is more than adequate to span the trolling motor pedal recessed pans on most major boat brands. Just simply measure the width of the opening on your pan.
- Bracket positions screen for optimum viewing. Center location keeps area organized and uncluttered allowing easy access when entering or exiting the bow area.
- Don't have a recessed trolling motor pedal? This bracket is an excellent choice for on deck applications too.

***To order direct send email to: [rk@kicknbass.net](mailto:rk@kicknbass.net) and inquire about the Kick'n Bass Bow Mount Sonar Bracket. \$74.95 includes Shipping to lower 48.***