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www.kicknbass.net

Dec. 28, 2012

This has been a very rewarding year for Kick'n Bass Guide Service. I can honestly say that we never had a bad trip. Yeah, sometimes the fishing was a little slow but the company was always good. After all it's the people not the catch that makes guiding worthwhile. That's why I love what we do. We've had many great catches over the last twelve months here's a few that I think you'll find interesting ...

Largemouth Bass ...



Jim Simpson of Frankfort, Ky. I can still hear Jim saying "Randy, I've haven't caught a bass on those darn blade baits you always talk about, I don't believe they'll catch a fish"! Jim and I had been having modest success fishing Shakey Heads on the Ledges when as I reeled in a small bass, I saw a half dozen big green shadows following my hooked fish. I quickly released the bass and picked up a rod with a Steel Shad blade bait on it and made a hurried cast, telling Jim to do the same. Immediately we both hooked up, me with a solid 3 pounder and Jim with a much larger fish. I released my meager catch and netted Jim's fish, a solid 6 pounder and his biggest KY Lake bass ever! While I was filling

the live wells and preparing Jim's fish for a photo opportunity, he hooked another really good bass. I netted it and placed it in the live well along with the other fish. This bass appeared to be heavier than the one he had just caught. I was now staring at two fish in the live well that I estimated to weigh about 12 lbs. I glanced at my watch and it was 11:30 am. I had an on the water Sonar Class scheduled in 30 minutes and I informed Jim we'd have to quit fishing pretty soon if I was going to make it on time. Always the gentlemen, Jim said we could quit whenever we needed to so I wouldn't be late. Although he was serious I could tell by the look on his face that he'd be highly disappointed if we left this school of fish. We compromised and decided to quit at 50 bass. Having caught 40 at the time I figured with the way they were biting, we'd be done in short order. Well 50 went to 60, 60 went to 70 fish caught and we finally quit at 75 bass with the fish still biting. I estimated our best 5 fish to weigh about 25 lbs. with Jim's two fish the biggest of the lot. What a fantastic day of fishing! Now Jim is one of the best guys you'd ever want to be in a boat with but he's special in another way ... he's a cancer survivor. Jim's appreciates life and his positive attitude is contagious and just being around him makes it a good day for me. The fantastic fishing we experienced was just icing on the cake.

By the way ... How 'bout them 'ole Steel Shad blade baits, Jim!

Catfish ...



Erik Smith from Florida. Erik and his young son were up from Florida to visit family and decided to do a Pontoon Fishing trip with Kick'n Bass. The White Bass fishing had been absolutely fantastic and Capt. Rich Bay had guided several days that week where our clients had caught all they wanted. Today was not going to be one of those days. The stripes were far and few between and we were barely catching enough to keep Erik's young son occupied. Suddenly, Erik's rod bent nearly double and I thought at first he was hung on the bottom but when the drag began screaming I knew he had a monster fish on. Rich kicked the Minn Kota Terrova in high gear and we went after the fish but at the rate the fish was taking line the trolling motor couldn't keep up. I started the outboard engine and we took to chasing the fish. About 10 minutes passed

before Erik could get the fish to where we could get a look at it and what we saw was the biggest catfish I'd ever seen hooked on a rod & reel. No way were we going to be able to land this thing. We had no net big enough, no gaff or Bota Grip that would do the job. Capt. Rich was determined *NOT* to let this fish get away as this was the biggest fish any Kick'n Bass client had on all year. Rich took off his glasses, open the side door and hung over the side of the pontoon with his arms wide open saying "Bring the big #\$\$%&*!@ to me". My good friend Bill Hurle from Louisville, who was along for the ride couldn't believe what he was seeing and neither could I. As Erik brought the monster along the side of the pontoon for the third time, Rich lunged and grabbed the big cat by the tail and gills and it began to thrash wildly. Bill had a hold of Rich's left leg and I had a hold of the other and on the count of three we drug Rich, big cat and all, back into the pontoon. By now Rich was soaked and covered in slime and the big cat was none too happy flopping wildly and sliming everything in its path. Finally Rich rolled over and sat on the cat while I unhooked the Steel Shad blade bait from its mouth. Now Rich ain't no small fry and the catfish was still huge by comparison. We snapped a few photos, weighed the fish in at a tad over 50 lbs. and stuffed it in the live well. What a catch and what a mess! Back at Whispering Oaks Resort the crowd that gathered at the cleaning station just about soiled themselves when they saw how big the fish was. *It's nice when a big fish saves the day! Way to go Erik!*



White Bass (Stripes)



May Grell Gilbertsville, KY.

We had so many great trips this year on the Fishing Pontoon picking just one was hard but Rich & I agreed that May Grell, a 72 year-old little stick of dynamite deserved some ink. May's son Mike from California set the trip up for the family and I'm

pretty sure his mom didn't know about it but a trip on the Fishing Pontoon was just perfect for their family outing. The 3½ pound white bass May caught was not only the largest of its species caught by a client this year but it was part of a huge catch made by her family. May told me she started fishing when she was a little girl and it showed too as the little old lady kicked everyone's butt that day when it came to numbers of fish! I especially liked it when she hooked a fish and handed it to her grown son to reel in. I guess no matter how old your kids get you never stop being a mother to them! It's a lot of fun watching folks harmlessly trash talking and high-fiving as they celebrate their catch on the Fishing Pontoon. *Heck ... I'd almost guide for free ... well almost!*

Crappie ...



Paula Farrar Nashville, TN. Sometimes it's not how big the catch is, it's the circumstances surrounding it. Paula's husband Bob is a good 'ole country boy from Georgia and grew up around the water. Paula on the other hand had never been fishing and being a city girl I was afraid that her idea of a fishing trip would be to go to the Bonefish Grill and order off the menu. Bob put the trip together and was pretty adamant that it was to be "all about his wife catching her first fish". Light southerly winds, partly cloudy skies and warm fall temps, a picture perfect day to go fishing on KY Lake. I arrived early at Lighthouse Landing and decided to check out some ledges that I thought might hold some fish. I found a nice school of crappie and was catching them on every cast. I didn't know it at the time but Bob & Paula were watching me from the deck of their rental cabin. I didn't see them and they didn't know it was me either. I met the Farrars at the dock and Bob had brought several outfits including a push button Zebco and his Dad's vintage

5 foot pistol grip bass rod and ambassador 5500 reel loaded with heavy mono. Nice gear but not the best choice for casting 3/32 oz. curly tails for crappie. After a few anxious moments I convinced the Farrars to try my system matched Shimano crappie outfits. After Paula got past slapping the water with the lures and fishing with the reel upside down she settled in to making some pretty good casts. Wouldn't you know it; the aggressive bite I had experienced earlier had disappeared and fishing was terribly slow until the Prime Feeding time kicked in several hours later. It was then that Paula caught her first fish, a nice crappie and proceeded to catch several more and a stripe and largemouth too. Bob's a pretty good angler and I fish all the time and neither one of us could hardly buy a fish. Paula was having the time of her life showing up her husband and her fishing guide and even mildly trash talked us a little bit to boot! Paula not only caught the most fish that trip she caught the biggest ones too. One of the great things about being a guide is taking first timers fishing and being there when they catch their first fish ... today was no exception. I've got to give Bob some props too ... he made all the right moves making the trip all about his wife, like a good husband should do. As you can see in the photo, Paula was pretty proud of herself but probably not as proud as Bob was of his wife.

Redear ...



Justin & Ova Pitman Benton, KY.

Most of the time, it's a bad omen when a trip starts off in an unusually cold and dense fog. Navigating across the lake in pea soup to meet the Pitmans on the LBL side where they were camping, added to the morning's misery. However, there's nothing like a good 'ole natured father & son competitiveness to heat things up. Justin & his dad had a lot of fun trash talking and trying to one up one another. I'm not going to say who did what but since the old man caught the biggest crappie, his share of the redear, paid for the trip and I've got to face your momma at the gym it ain't looking good for you Justin ...

Lake Conditions

Lake Levels ... As of this morning both lakes are a little over 2 feet above winter pool. For additional info, including generation schedule for Kentucky Lake, visit the TVA website:

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 50's.

Weather Outlook

Friday...Mostly cloudy. A slight chance of rain and freezing rain in the morning...Then a chance of rain in the afternoon. Highs around 40. South winds 5 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent. **Friday Night...**Mostly cloudy. A chance of rain and snow in the evening...Then a chance of snow after midnight. Lows in the lower 30s. Northwest winds 5 mph. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.

Saturday...Partly sunny. Highs in the mid 30s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph. **Saturday Night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 20s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 30s. **Sunday Night...**Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy. A chance of rain and sleet in the morning...Then a chance of rain in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 40s. Chance of precipitation 30 percent. **Monday Night...**Mostly cloudy. A chance of rain in the evening... Then a chance of snow and freezing rain after midnight. Lows in the upper 20s. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

New Years Day...Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of rain and snow in the morning. Highs in the upper 30s.

Prime Feeding Times for Gilbertsville, KY 42044

| Date | Temps | Sun Data | Moon Data | Moon Phase | Major Times | Minor Times | Prediction |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|---|---------------------|
| Thursday 12/27/12 | H: 34° L: 29° | Rise: 7:05 AM Set: 4:43 PM | Rise: 4:25 PM Set: 6:15 AM Overhead: 11:45 PM Underfoot: 11:21 AM | 100% Waxing Gibbous | 11:21 AM - 1:21 PM 11:45 PM - 1:45 AM | 6:15 AM - 7:15 AM 4:25 PM - 5:25 PM | Best |
| Friday 12/28/12 | H: 41° L: 24° | Rise: 7:05 AM Set: 4:44 PM | Rise: 5:20 PM Set: 7:00 AM Overhead: --:-- Underfoot: 12:09 PM | 100% FULL MOON | --:-- - --:-- 12:09 PM - 2:09 PM | 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM 5:20 PM - 6:20 PM | SEASONS BEST |
| Saturday 12/29/12 | H: 36° L: 31° | Rise: 7:05 AM Set: 4:44 PM | Rise: 6:15 PM Set: 7:41 AM Overhead: 12:33 AM Underfoot: 12:57 PM | 98% Waning Gibbous | 12:33 AM - 2:33 AM 12:57 PM - 2:57 PM | 7:41 AM - 8:41 AM 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM | Better++ |
| Sunday 12/30/12 | H: 37° L: 22° | Rise: 7:05 AM Set: 4:45 PM | Rise: 7:13 PM Set: 8:17 AM Overhead: 1:21 AM Underfoot: 1:44 PM | 95% Waning Gibbous | 1:21 AM - 3:21 AM 1:44 PM - 3:44 PM | 8:17 AM - 9:17 AM 7:13 PM - 8:13 PM | Better |
| Monday 12/31/12 | H: 41° L: 27° | Rise: 7:06 AM Set: 4:46 PM | Rise: 8:11 PM Set: 8:52 AM Overhead: 2:07 AM Underfoot: 2:30 PM | 90% Waning Gibbous | 2:07 AM - 4:07 AM 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM | 8:52 AM - 9:52 AM 8:11 PM - | |

Check out the video on the New Bow Mount Sonar Bracket

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BoLvui9b91O&feature=relmfu>



"Don't Wait" ... Book Your Spring Crappie trip NOW!

The Boat Show Season is upon us ...



Don't Forget That Kick'n Bass Offers Pontoon Fishing

Check out the pontoon video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIjrXQe4FfI>
Contact rk@kicknbass.net for more info.

SONAR TIP OF THE WEEK ...



Proper Location Of LSS Transducer is Critical for Optimum performance

Locating your LSS Transducer (StructureScan transducer) in the proper location is critical if you want to achieve peak performance from your system. In this case the transducer was mounted on the left side of the jack plate resulting in a loss of about 40% view on the right side. Unfortunately I see this scenario way too often. The first step in our "On the Water Sonar Class" is to inspect your system to see if the installation has been done to factory specs and the components are installed in the proper location. If adjustments are needed we make them prior to beginning your class. Doing so assures you that your system will perform at a high level and you'll get the most out of our time on the water.

You've made a Significant Investment in Electronics. Be the best angler you can be by learning to use your electronics to their full potential. For your "On the water Sonar Class" contact Lowrance Pro Staffer Randy Kuhens at rk@kicknbass.net

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

Randy, Thanks for taking time to trouble shoot my system and making sure everything was operating properly. Now I understand why I wasn't getting images like I see in your fishing report. Your sonar class really opened my eyes to the capability of what my HDS 8's can do. I have a lot more confidence in my system now and can't wait to get back on the water.

Ryan Reynolds – Jackson, Mo.

Kick'n Bass offers a one on one, hands on, in your boat using your electronics class that will take your understanding and know-how to another level!

Here's just some of what Kick'n Bass can do for YOU!

- **Make sure your HDS unit(s) has the correct settings for the type of fishing you do.**
- **Program the individual screens and install the overlay data on the screen that you want. Example: Depth, Water Temp, Time, etc.**
- **Arrange the screens so they display what you want them to show and make going from page to page orderly and non-confusing.**
- **Eliminate unwanted, non-practical on screen data that clutters your screen and gets in the way of using your unit to its maximum potential.**
- **Learn the art of waypoint management. No more cluttered maps with useless or unproductive waypoints. You'll learn how to identify which locations are waypoint worthy and how to go back to those locations without ever assigning a waypoint. You'll learn to only assign a waypoint once you are satisfied the location is worth saving.**
- **Demo the unit for you to help you be familiar with the screens and commands, so you'll have a good understanding of how to use the unit and take advantage of its fish finding capabilities.**

As a bonus Kick'n Bass will help you learn to read an electronic topo map and find "places of interest" that could be potential fishing hot spots.

Kick'n Bass at the LET'S GO FISHING SHOW Jan. 4-5-6

Kick'n Bass Guide Service will be at the show held at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, IL. We'll be located in booths 47-48. Look for the Kick'n Bass Logo ...



*In addition to our Kentucky Lake Guide Service we offer our extremely popular **Family Pontoon Fishing Trips and "On the Water High Definition Sonar Class".***

View actual client photos taken during our Fishing Adventures and "On the Water Sonar Class". These photos are displayed electronically in high definition on a flat screen monitor. The Sonar Photos are complete with text defining structure, fish holding cover, baitfish and even your favorite game fish. Come, let's talk!