

A Legacy of Innovation  
Since 1969

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## Smile Blades for Therapy

*by Jared Ayres*



After spending four nights in the hospital with a heart arrhythmia, and going through many tests, many things can go through your mind. Like what causes this, and what can I do to prevent this from happening again?

The doctor told me that stress was

causing it. He told me to slow down and take time to enjoy life instead of doing so much. That's hard in today's fast-paced world in which we find ourselves getting caught up. On the third day in the hospital my friend Tony Glynn stopped in to see me and said, "When you get out, we need to

go out on Saginaw Bay and find those big walleye. Its been a couple of years since we really got into the big ones.

The doctor finally came in and told me that I can go home, but I just need to relax and take it easy for a while. For the following three days I spent a lot of time sitting in my back yard, relaxing in my lounge chair while sipping on ice tea and thinking about when was the last time I had just "sat there" and watched the world pass by without feeling like I had to be a part of it. Just then the phone rang and on the other end was Tony calling to say that the following day was supposed to be sunny with light winds and waves less than one foot. Without hesitation I said, "Tony, I think that's just what the doctor ordered."

The next morning we drove to Au Gres Michigan, and looked out on the water. Just as the weather man predicted, Saginaw Bay was flat as a pancake and the orange sun was just peaking up from the horizon. I couldn't wait to get out there.

Our first stop was near the Charity Islands. We began trolling in eleven feet of water. There were no walleye there but we did manage to pull in a five-pound smallmouth bass, which we released.

We both decided to try some deeper water next. I started setting trolling lines in about 27 feet of water. As soon as the second line was

in the water, the first planer board started to pull back and tip downward slowly. I grabbed the rod and set the hook. This one felt good!

As the walleye approached the boat it looked like a torpedo and not one of those under 20-inch “teeners” that often beat the bigger walleye to the bait. Pulling the lunker out of the net, we found it weighed in at just over six pounds.

Looking at our trolling speed on the GPS, I noticed that we were going between .6 and .8 m.p.h. I looked at Tony and said, “If we are going this slow, we should use Smile Blades.” I then switched two of the crawler harnesses with metal blades to Smile Blades and proceeded to let line out 25 feet behind the boat,

clipped the in-line board on the line and let it out slow. The board made it only about 20 feet behind the boat before it began to tip downward. I lifted the rod up and the fight was on! After a lengthy fight we landed an eight-pounder.

We then put Smile Blades on all four lines and caught nine walleye between six and eight and a half pounds. After we reached our limit of 10 we were so excited. We hadn't caught this many big walleye in years.

This relaxing day on the Saginaw Bay with getting back to the basics of using Mack's Lure Smile Blades, and enjoying great company, was the best therapy I think I could have ever had! Thanks Tony!



*Just what the doctor ordered. Some nice walleye and relaxation for Jared Ayres and Tony Glynn.*

## Tip of the Month

### Boon-Doggin' with the new HummBait

by Jerry Brown

Have you ever side-drifted or “boon-dogged” for summer steelhead? Basically we did the same thing with the HummBait. Let the boat float in the current, control the boat with the kicker and make casts toward the shoreline and slowly retrieve. Recently the Cowlitz River in Washington was very high, and we found the steelhead were laying high and tight to the shoreline around structure and under tree lines.

We noticed several fish “rolling” and the rest of the bunch and I were perplexed on how to get ‘em from out under the brush. This bass fishing technique came to mind. We got out the new HummBait and one of my clients was able to get it in there. We heard the cry “fish on!” several times. The dark colors seem to work well, but we are going to try other colors too.

## Cookin' Your Catch

### Simple Cracker Breading

One of the easiest fish breadings is also one of the tastiest. Finely crush saltine crackers, and add a little Lawry's or Johnny's Seasoned Salt (not too much because the crackers already have some salt). Dip filets in a mixture of 1/2 milk and 1/2 beaten eggs and then roll in cracker mix. Gently drop them into the hot oil. Fry them in 375-degree oil until they float and are colored golden brown. Wow are they good!

**ATTENTION ALL READERS!** The **Mack Attack** newsletter wants you to share your stories about the new HummBait or any other Mack's Lure fishing lures. Don't stress about writing an entire fishing story. All we need is a short statement concerning the products performance. If you are selected your comments, name, and any picture will appear in a future issue of the Mack Attack. Also you may be contacted to be interviewed for a feature story. Please email your statement along with a photo to [bernie@mackslure.com](mailto:bernie@mackslure.com). We look forward to reading about your best fishing story.

## There's More than One Way...

*By Hall of Fame Angler Stan Fagerstrom*

*Part 1 of 2*



There is usually more than one way to do darn near anything.

Nowhere does that bit of profundity apply more distinctly than in fishing. Let's narrow it down even more and point specifically to fishing spinnerbaits for bass. Are you somebody who simply throws your spinnerbait to the nearest cover and then reels it back in without varying either the speed of your retrieve or the depth at which the lure travels?

If you are, you have lots of company. Most of us are inclined to take that approach to spinnerbait fishing and often times it's not the best way to go. Never have I had that proven to me quite as clearly as on those relatively rare occasions when I've been

***Slow rolling a spinnerbait produced this dandy bass. Every now and then a slow retrieve with a lure like the Stan's Spin is the most productive way to use it***

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successful in talking my wife into joining me on a bass fishing adventure.

My wife is never going to be a full-blown bass fishing fanatic. I held onto that hope in the early years of our marriage, but it soon became obvious it wasn't going to happen. Today I accept the fact she will go now and then, but only if the air temperature is between 72 and 78 degrees and the wind is out of the west and blowing less than five miles per

hour. And I also have to be sure the boat is clean and that there's a soft pillow on the stern seat.

I don't have to ask Anita what lure she wants to throw on those times she does come along. Her choice is a 1/2-ounce Pro Model Stan's Spin with a white skirt. There's no need to ask her if she wants to throw anything else. She's convinced that if they'll hit anything they'll smack her white-skirted Stan's Spin.

Now I had a hand in helping the good folks at Mack's Lure bring the Stan's Spin to market in the first place. I know it's a dandy bait, but over a lifetime of bass fishing I've also learned that no one lure is always going to be best each time out. Even so, it pains me a little bit to admit how many times my better half has proven that she's right—that her Stan's Spin is indeed a cinch to catch fish. Sometimes she sits back there in the boat and nails fish while I'm shooting blanks up front.

There's really no mystery as to why it happens. Why? Because Anita's not in that common rut many of us dig for ourselves where spinnerbait fishing is concerned. She often makes just one cast where I've made two or three. It would probably drive me bonkers to fish my Stan's Spin as slowly as I've watched her do.

Sometimes, and again more often than I care to admit, those stupid bass don't seem to realize they shouldn't mess around with a spinnerbait fished as slowly as my wife is doing. They just go ahead and bite the dang thing anyhow. They don't seem to care one bit that I've got a lifetime of bass fishing experience and my wife doesn't know beans about it and won't lose any sleep because she doesn't.

The reason all this comes about, of course, is connected to what I said



*There's more than one way to fish a spinner-bait. And the Stan's Spin is as versatile as they come.*

in the beginning. There's more than one way to do darn near anything. Sometimes taking a new and different approach with a spinnerbait, any other lure for that matter, is the best way to put bass in the boat.

I'll share additional thoughts on

*Welcome to our new monthly question feature! Feel free to contact us at [bernie@mackslure.com](mailto:bernie@mackslure.com) if you have a question you would like to see featured!*

**Q:** In how many sizes, colors and patterns is the Smile Blade available?

**A:** The Smile Blade comes in four sizes and several dozen different combinations of sizes, colors and patterns. The identifying numbers denote

this subject in my next column. Watch for it next month.

### Question of the Month

the size of the bait: The 0.8 is 8/10ths of an inch wide, for example. The other sizes are the 1.1, the 1.5, and the largest, which is 1.9 inches wide. They come in four patterns, the scale, mirror, sparkle, and tiger, and eight colors, for a total of a whopping 128 different combinations of color, size and pattern. No doubt there's one that will be your favorite!

### Photo of the Month

*We want your photos! Send your photos to [bernie@mackslure.com](mailto:bernie@mackslure.com).*



*Smile Blades catch muskies too! Sandy Eckhardt of Hampton, Iowa is a long time user of Mack's Lure Products. This 44-inch muskie was caught on a Smile Blade spinner she tied herself while fishing in Cliff Lake, Ontario Canada this year.*

**The Mack Attack is a free service provided to anyone who is interested by Mack's Lures Inc. We need your input! If you know of anyone who would like to be on the mailing list to receive the Mack Attack, please forward their e-mail address to [al@mackslure.com](mailto:al@mackslure.com).**

**Photos, stories and comments are welcomed and encouraged. Please forward all content materials to [bernie@mackslure.com](mailto:bernie@mackslure.com).**

**THANK YOU!**

