

Thunder Bay Walleye Club Newsletter

MARCH 2016

PO Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

Officers

President Jim Leeseberg
Vice President Dave Birmingham
Financial/Recording Sec Dennis Burns

Board of Directors

Bill O'Neil
Richard Hubert
Eric MacKenzie
Kevin Cosbitt

THE REEL FUN ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY 27TH 2016

A lot of prep work goes into this event starting in December 2015. Raffle license and prizes have to be secured and raffle tickets printed. A new banner for the TBWC raffle was donated by Model Printing.

Jim Leeseberg heads this event and the results shows with the cooperation of the club members, our vendors and the Reel Fun board put together to make this another great success.

All 1000 holes were sold out with participants coming from as far south as Howell Michigan and other out of area locations.

Weather for drilling was blue bird. About 1178 holes were laid out on a 13.5 acre grid, fenced and ready for the "drillers" on Friday the 26th. About 14 inches of ice was assaulted and completed in record time.

Those who brought a auger received a hole ticket and a club membership. Helpers received a club membership.

Hole drillers in alpha are Kevin Dorie, Jim Engle, Josh and Rob Frantz, Matt Hunter, Chad Kruczynski, Kevin Lundquist, Eric MacKenzie, Rob McMillan, Bill O'Neil, Bruce Schafer, Howard Spigelmyre, Brian Pour, Dennis Vermeulen, Taylor Witulski, David Yachasz. I hope no one was missed.

Entrance onto the ice was plowed by with a tractor to allow a smooth entrance onto the ice by HAPPCO BUILDERS of Presque Isle. Greg Trelfa our great boat mechanic plowed the tent area.

Tent was put up shortly after holes were installed and the Porta Jons were put in place.

Already set go. Not quite.

Saturday morning early, 6 am, the support stuff for the tournament along with food vendors and contestants etc. begin to show up. Franks Great Outdoors was present along with other. The hamburger stand

doubled their order for last year and ran outa burgers at 12:30, however hotdogs held up along with the hot chocolate.

Denny Burns arrived about 8:30 with the scale, scale table, signage, raffle and 50/50 tickets, etc.

Already there were about 150 fishermen and gals waiting to get into the grid to claim their holes. Dave Birmingham and Reel Fun Volunteers were waiting for 9am entry time into the grid for the contestant make their charge for the 12pm to 3pm tournament time. Contestants are inspected and allowed in. Denny Burns did manage to go thru the fence as he drove in with his stuff. It's something that seems to happen every year. Last year it happened about 6 or 7 times by others.

Set up is made by the TBWC for an orderly weigh which started at 3:01 with no break until about 1:30 in with Rob Frantz and friend checking in the people with fish, recording their hole # and name. Fish are removed from their transport vessel weighed, recorded and returned to the lake via a hole drilled by the weigh station. All fish weighed were successfully returned. Most fish were Perch with a couple of dog fish which are not fish and were also returned. Perch did average much larger than previous years. One Walleye, about 1.75# was caught about 2:30 for the grand prize of a John Deer Gator. Cutting it kinda close. The person with the largest Perch was disappointed I'm sure when they heard about the walleye. The walleye was caught near the tent and had to swim thru a mine field of bait to nail that one certain bait. Never give up, you just never know.

TBWC ticket sale were handled by Glen Klimczak and his wife starting prior to 9am and continued until 3pm. Thank you very much.

Matt Hunter and Denny Burns shared the weighing. Matt spent 2 days helping this event along with others. The best part for me was the little ones bringing their catch to the sale for recording and running back to their hole to get a bigger one. After the 3pm end time the TBWC awarded their prizes as follows.

1 st place a Vexilar FL-18 Pro Pack Fish Finder went to	Jim Northrup of Alpena.
2 nd place a Shappell FX200 Fish Shanty went to	Lee Prevo Central Lake.
3 rd place an Eskimo Stringray 8" auger went to	Gary Konieczny Alpena.
4 th place a Vexilar Handheld Depth Sonar went to	Mark Reitz Saginaw.
5 th place a Jet Sled XL with Hitch went to	Gary Hartman Howell.

Reel Fun tallied the catches in a laptop to get the official results for their awards. The top 30 by weight. First place is the most valuable prize, however the rest of the prize grid thru 30th place is random. So even though your 5th place fish may be bigger, the 30th place prize may be more valuable. Just to keep it interesting!

After awards teardown started and everything was off the ice by 5pm including the tent. Very well organized and implemented by all.

THANK YOU TO PRESQUE ISLE FOR PLOWING AND SANDING THE LAUCH SIGHT.

THANK YOU ALL WHO HELPED WITH THIS EVENT. MANY MAKE THIS SUCESSFUL.

2016 February 21st

The Annual Thunder Bay Walleye Club & Side Door Bait & Tackle Hubbard

The winner in the Walleye Division was Terry Franklin with a 18 1/4" fish. The winner in the Perch Division was Randy Cousineau with a 14 1/4" fish. Left to right: Seth Haugerud & Mark Haugerud from the TBWC, Monica Troy, Jalen Troy, Terry Franklin, Jim Watts, Randy Cousineau, and Len from Side Door Bait & Tackle



No report on weather conditions number of contestants or fish caught.

The Blue Water Bait will be hosting the 3rd Annual 6am-6pm Perch and Walleye Tournament on Hubbard Lake, Saturday, February 13th.

NO REPORT AT THIS TIME

**2016
TBWC Club Fishing Tournaments**

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 Thunder Bay River/Lk Huron – Launch Alpena Boat Harbor	Sun May 1 st	7AM – 3PM
2 Hubbard Lake – Launch DNR East Bay	Sat May 7 th	6PM – 2AM
3 Saginaw Bay - Launch AuGres DNR	Sun May 22 nd	7AM – 3PM
4 Long Lake - Launch Long Lake Park	Sun June 5 th	7AM – 3PM
* 5 “Nite – Eyes” – Launch Alpena Boat Harbor (Public)	Fri & Sat June 10 th & 11 th	6PM – 1AM
6 Mullet Lake – Launch DNR North End	Sun June 26 th	7AM – 3PM
7 Thunder Bay – Launch Alpena Boat Harbor	Sun July 10 th	7AM – 3PM
MI. Brown Trout/MWT Walleye Tourney – Launch Alp. Boat Harbor	Sat & Sun July 16 th & 17 th	7AM – 3PM
8 Rockport –Launch Rockport, Alternate Grand Lake	Sun August 7 th	7AM – 3PM
9 Grand Lake - Launch South DNR	Sun August 21 st	7AM – 3PM
10 Hubbard Lake – Launch DNR East Bay	Sun Sept 11 th	7AM – 3PM

NON NUMBERED TOURNAMENTS ARE NO POINT TOURNEYS.

* NITE EYES ENTRY IS \$100.00 PER BOAT for both nights, **6** ROD LIMIT, NO LIMIT ON # OF CONTESTANTS ON THE BOAT

February meeting notes,

- January financials were read
- Discussion on Nite Eyes on the number of lines per boat.
- Motion from 8 to 6 lines made and approved.
- Jim Leeseberg gave a rundown on Reel Fun February 27th
- Drilling plans finalized

Carl Hatala says Warrior will do the same as last year BT walleye tourney
Romeo is looking into Besser for support and DPI for BT walleye tourney

Discussion on BT fish tagging

Inland lake speed limit is 55 on all in Michigan unless otherwise posted.

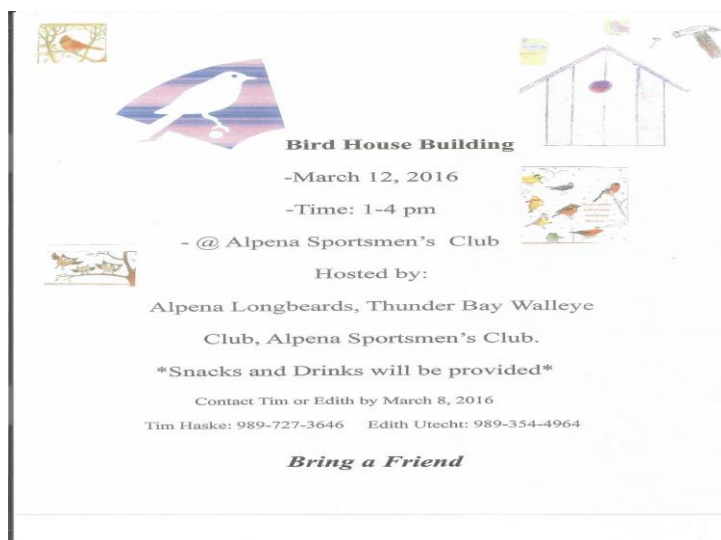
Lotsa discussion on ice fishing.

UP COMING EVENTS

Rotary Auction March 10th

Long Beards bird house building at Sportsmens Club March 12th.

Contact Edith Utecht 989 354 4964 for info.



Bird House Building
-March 12, 2016
-Time: 1-4 pm
- @ Alpena Sportsmen's Club
Hosted by:
Alpena Longbeards, Thunder Bay Walleye
Club, Alpena Sportsmen's Club.
Snacks and Drinks will be provided
Contact Tim or Edith by March 8, 2016
Tim Haske: 989-727-3646 Edith Utecht: 989-354-4964
Bring a Friend

Club awards banquet is set for the last Saturday in April.

BROWN TROUT

Apparently BT is having a raffle and tickets will be available.
Glen will have a report on BT at this meeting.

SERVICES

Boat & RV Fiberglass repair-- Mid Michigan Fiberglass Inc. Owner Steve Schnettler, 1809 27th St.
Bay City Michigan 989-895-7000 www.midmichiganfiberglass.com Factory Authorized. Highly recommended by Romeo 989-358-5310

Electric Motor, Canvas, and Downrigger Repair

If you are in need of work on your Minnkota, need canvas work, or your Cannon Downriggers Serviced get ahold of Brad Valley @ Valley's Dockside Canvas Services and Repairs all Minnkota products including Cannon Downriggers. 989-464-1191.

Looking for upgrades, repairs, and now fall winter WORK? Call the Boat Keeper! Most of you already know that TBWC member Greg Trelfa is a great mechanic. Why order from the big stores when Greg now has access to a full line of marine parts and accessories for all the major brands like Johnson, Evenrude, Mercury, Yamaha and more? He can also supply you with the latest in electronics from Lowrance and Hummingbird, and does professional high end installations as well. His kind of personal service and expertise is hard to come by, so if you are

looking to upgrade some electronics or need some repairs or maintenance done and want it done right at very competitive prices, give Greg a call @ 595-3149.

Wayne Van Dyke has a "Repair Kit" for all Off Shore Products. Anyone needing repair work, just contact me at wvandyke35@hotmail.com and I'll try to take care of it. No cost.

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE PAID NOW.

Single person membership is \$15.00 per year. Family membership is \$25.00 includes all persons living in your household.

If you don't know if your memberships are due contact Denny Burns at 989 354 2419, email me or see me at a meeting.

Email members have the *membership year* after their last name on emails sent by Denny Burns.

Regular mailed member's membership year is on the envelope.

Make checks out to TBWC.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday March 9th 2016, 7pm

MEETING ROOM 126

ACC Besser Tech Center (Room -126) it's the large room to the *RIGHT* as you go in the front entrance in the BTC on the north side of Johnson St.

Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted in the newsletter.

(Please note: If the college is closed due to weather conditions the meeting will be rescheduled or cancelled)

Agenda:

Reel Fun Ice Fishing Tournament review

Club Tourneys: Any Discussion

Brown Trout up date

Anything else you want to bring up.