

# Thunder Bay Walleye Club

## Newsletter

April, 2010

P.O. Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

| Officers                    |                 | Board of Directors |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| President                   | Jim Leeseberg   | Bill O'Neil        |
| Vice President              | Dave Birmingham | Richard Hubert     |
| Finance/Recording Secretary | Dennis Burns    | Eric MacKenzie     |
|                             |                 | Kevin Cosbitt      |

## Club Activities

### TBWC Annual Banquet April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

Looking for a good time? Don't forget about the 2010 Awards Banquet on April 17<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be back at the Alpena Sportsman's Club off M-32. This is always a great family event with lots of terrific games and prizes. Thank you to everyone involved in organizing this event, it is much appreciated.

|                    |   |          |
|--------------------|---|----------|
|                    | Saturday, April 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2010<br>Alpena Sportsman's Club  |          |
| Doors open at 4:30 | Games/Appetizers 5:00 - 7:00<br>Dinner at 7:00<br>Awards to follow dinner<br>Setups will be provided  |          |
| Prizes!            | Women's Baskets!  | Raffles! |
|                    | <u>Dinner</u>   |          |
|                    | Turkey Breast and gravy, Sausage and kraut, potato, corn, beans, relish tray, hot rolls, salad, and desserts.   |          |
|                    | Dinner is \$15.00 per person at the door.<br>12 and under are free.   |          |
|                    | ***Please RSVP by Monday, April 12 <sup>th</sup> , your name and how many adults and under 12 will attend to Dennis Burns at 989 354-2419 and leave a message or email to <a href="mailto:jackieodennyb@verizon.net">jackieodennyb@verizon.net</a> You do not have to be a member to participate. Please note that we will have to have an accurate # when you RSVP. We will not be able to accept <u>ANY</u> last minute attendees at the door for dinner. |          |

## Early Spring

It's been an early spring so far with some fabulous weather. Before we know it, we'll be back in action and fishing our tournaments. Now is the time to get the boat in the water and work out any of the bugs it might have. Some of the guy's have been on the water already, and picking up a few fish here and there. The water's still extremely cold and the Walleye are just now starting to think about spawning. Last year some of us were still ice fishing the first week of April. This year a few people were able to hit the river before the season closed and pick up some nice fish.

### *A Few Thoughts on Crowded Situations*

This year will probably be like many of the previous years, with the first tournament seeing the fish concentrated in just a few relatively small areas. Usually this will concentrate many of our boats in the same spot. The boats will all be trying to hit particular pieces of structure or certain waypoints, myself included. Please try and remember to show some courtesy to other fisherman when these situations arise. It's not too hard to move just a touch to accommodate another boat, but all too many times we see some boats pushing each other into the shore, or up on the reefs because they're trying to hit (THEIR) mark. I know I always like to hit my spots, but sometimes we have to yield. It's a give and take that will make everyone happier in the end. Nobody owns the water and simple courtesy and a bit of respect will go a long way.

- Tighten up your sets a bit in crowded situations.
- Keep your boards visible to other boats
- Don't run people up into shallow water; if you are to the outside give a little to avoid pushing the other boat in too far.

### *Brown Trout Plant*

As many of you know, the Browns that were planted last fall have been piled up in the Lafarge Channel most of the fall, winter, and spring. They have been extremely easy to catch. Hopefully our club members have the common decency not to go in there and intentionally beat up on these fish. Although it is perfectly legal to catch and harvest these fish, it will in no way help to improve our fishery by doing so. These are plants intended to improve the Brown Trout fishery in Thunder Bay. There have been several reports of people taking many, many times over their three fish limit. Please encourage the fishermen you know to leave these little guys alone until next year at least. Just think of what these fish will be like in a couple years.

### *August Tournament Reminder*

Here's a little reminder and a look ahead. The weekend of our Au Gres Tournament is also the Annual Pirate Festival which means hotels will be filling up fast for the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of August. This comes from experience last year. Many of our guys had a hard time finding lodging last year. Think ahead. Team PBR passed on this information:

#### **Harbor Inn (on US-23)**

**2 double beds are \$89.99 plus tax per night**

**3 double beds are \$99.99 plus tax per night**

**(Due to it being Pirate Festival Weekend a two night minimum is required.)**

#### **Amenities:**

**Fish cleaning station**

**2 freezers for fish**

**External plugs for boat batteries**

**Continental breakfast**

**Phone number: 989-876-8131 (Eric and Kim are the owners)**

## DeTour Tournament August

If you go to [www.riverbendresort.com](http://www.riverbendresort.com) you can view an array of cabins to suites to cottages to houses for rent for the Detour Tournament. Jim Leeseberg went up last weekend to check out the area for this tourney. Make sure you tell them you are with the Thunder Bay Walleye Club and you will receive a 10% discount. Do it now to make sure you are not left out.

The cabins are rustic....compare to the Soo area cabins if you stayed there.  
Suites are modern and around \$9.00 more per day. Daily rates are available.

| <u>Resort Cabins</u>   | <u>River Bend Suites</u>   | <u>Vacation Homes</u>   |
|--|--|---|
| All 9 of the resort cabins have great views of the water, passing Freighters. The cabins have linens, full kitchens with coffee maker, toasters, microwaves and TV's. No Smoking, Pets OK.<br>Rates starting at \$399/week | All 4 of the newly remodeled suites have great views of the water. They all have private patios, linens, full kitchens including microwaves and CABLE TV.<br>No Smoking, no pets.<br>Open year-round.<br>Rates from \$499/week | We offer several homes that are available for vacation rental. They are clean, comfortable and on or near the water.<br>Amenities vary by location.<br>No Smoking.<br>Rates from \$699/week |

You can view and register on line or call 906-297-2400.

The DNRE launch is about 1/2 block from this sight along with their coffee shop, grocery and produce market, the DeTour Marina, restaurants and the Drummond Island Ferry.  
Population is around 425.

Reserve your time now to make sure it is available. August is a busy time there.

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The club fishing schedule has 2 errors.

Dates are correct but the day for Hubbard Lake May 22nd should be Sat. not Sun.

and the day for DeTour Village Aug 22nd should be Sun. not Sat.

Change your club fishing schedule to reflect this. This will be repeated in the upcoming newsletters.

Denny Burns

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### *Fish Cleaning-2010*

We will start cleaning fish from the DNRE near the end of April. We have done this for the past several years. It has been a great benefit to the community in that we clean research fish and distribute them to Friendship Room to supply meals for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Jim Lafluer and I have headed up two teams that alternate. Each team cleans about 4-5 times from late April through May. We normally clean starting about 4:00 P.M. weekdays, it takes about an hour.

This year I will not be able to head up a team but will do all the legwork, make phone calls, sign up teams, co-ordinate with the DNRE and the Friendship room. I need someone to pick up the fish and deliver them. Call Carl Kelly at 356-4694 if you will not be at the April meeting and would like to be on a team or lead a team.

Memberships are due. If you receive the newsletter via mail, your membership date is noted on the front of the envelope. If you receive the newsletter via email, your membership date is noted after your name on the to portion in the email header.

Memberships are still \$15.00 per year for a single membership and \$25.00 for a family membership. A family membership gives anyone living in your house all the advantages the club offers.

Membership dates are as of March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Club News**

- **Walleye Club jacket orders**
- If you are interested in getting a Walleye Club jacket, please give Steve Hubert a call @ 379-4614, so he can make it worthwhile to put orders together. It is really not a cost saver to order one jacket at a time. If you plan on getting one, call ahead, so he can plan for orders. Steve will have hats, t-shirts, TBWC decals etc. at the monthly meetings for you to purchase.

**Upcoming Activities –**  
Banquet

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Mathew Mausolf Alpena      Dan Partyka Presque Isle      Randy Gapske Alpena

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, April 13, 2010 at 7:00 pm

- **Besser Tech Room - Room 112** in the BTC

Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month

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

### **AGENDA:**

- Old Business
  - New 2010 club fishing tourney schedule
  
- New Business
  - Banquet (game) Sign Ups

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