

THUNDER BAY WALLEYE CLUB NEWSLETTER

July 2012

PO Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

Officers

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Vice President
Finance/Recording Secretary

Jim Leeseberg
Dave Birmingham
Dennis Burns

Board of Directors

Bill O'Neil
Richard Hubert
Eric MacKenzie
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NEW MEETING ROOM 126

Our previous spot with the comfortable chairs

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.

Upcoming Tournaments

Thunder Bay- Launch Alpena Boat Harbor Sunday July 8th 7AM - 3PM

Last year on July 10th as we got closer to the middle of July the day time bite got noticeably more difficult. You could still get your fish, but if it was bright and calm you better get them early or you were probably in for a bit of a grind as it was last year. The winning fish were pulled just north of Scarecrow Island before 10:00 slow trolling Bugsy Blades 15 to 25 feet back on half ounce in-lines. A couple upgrade fish late in the day fishing deeper water outside of Sulfur Island and the waters around the Sulfur Island Reef.

Fishing in the bay has varied greatly depending on wind, water temps. Fish are being caught pretty consistently in the night time at Crooked Island and south. It has been a slow go during the day, with a few fish here and there. The water is still really mixed up due to high wind and changing directions.

Michigan Brown Trout Walleye Tourney

Saturday – Sunday

July 14th – 15th

\$6,000.00 First Place Guaranteed

Entry is \$250.00 per boat with a late fee after July 6th of \$50.00.

See more info at www.alpenami-browntROUT.com or email alpenabrowntrout@gmail.com.

The BT flier was mailed to all members in May.

Long Lake Sunday July 29th 7am – 3pm

Last year on July 31st after a terrible winter and very spotty spring fishing on Long Lake, the Walleyes certainly decided to cooperate for us in July. Many of the tournament boats went through between 10 and 20 keeper Eyes through the course of the day. There certainly weren't many big fish cooperating, so going through numbers and getting a solid 17 inch average was the key. There were a lot of fish suspended in the 18 to 20 foot depths off Long Lake Park, and that's where Vic Ross and Jerry Yarch focused their efforts just edging out the rest of the field with five Walleye weighing in at 7.18 lbs. Erich Carlson, Tom Ludwig, and Shawn Ballor, took second place working small spinners in the water just north of Little Gravelly in 17 to 20 feet of water. They went through 12 keepers for a five fish weight of 6.98 lbs. Al Douglas and Don Harrison snapped up the third spot with a weight of 6.89lbs taken in various locations on the south end of the lake. Vic and Jerry worked very hard and put in a lot of time prefishing. This win was well deserved! Congratulations guys!!

Rock Port August 5th 7am – 3pm

Last year the "Hot Bite Tournament" scheduled for August 14th @ Rockport was changed due to high wind and unsafe fishing conditions on the big lake. It was decided at Rockport by those fishing that instead of Grand Lake as an alternate to go to Hubbard Lake even thou the alternate was Grand Lake. This spring at the meeting to set up this year's fishing schedule it was decided the alternate for this year at Grand Lake is where we will fish if the big lake is not safe.

Remember when fishing club tournaments, one person in the boat must be a current member and a non member may fish only one time. 2011 memberships are no longer valid. You can renew your membership and new memberships at a tournament.

Tournament Results

Saginaw Bay – Launch Augres Sunday June 17th 7AM – 3PM

Prefishing Saturday was great, weather was light winds and fish were almost jumping in the boat. However Sunday was a bit different. It has thundered, lighting, and rained Saturday night with launch time showing SW wind 15 to 20 and gusts to 30 and more thunder on the radar. It did rain and some thunder and with the wind it was not a nice day on the bay.

A total of 4, yes 4 boats showed Sunday morning so 3 out of the 4 were guaranteed a payout as small as it was.

Brent and Bob Holcomb fishing with Romeo Bourdage had a nice catch to capture 1st place with 19.66 lbs. Mathew Byce and Jim Watts fishing with Mark Byce managed 16.9 lbs. for second and Bryan Lapine and Bryan Macneill fishing with Jon Kruttlin netted 12.24 lbs. for third.

**2012 Thunder Bay Walleye Club Best 5 Tournament
Standings**

Top 10 of 87 Fishing thru 4 of 9 Tournaments

Name	Points Best 5 of 9	Rank
Byce, Mark	247.78	1
Watts, Jim	199.54	2
Bourdage, Romeo	191.73	3
Holcomb, Brent	191.73	3
Carlson, Erich	191.00	4
Matchett, Brian	170.50	5
Matchett, Mel	170.50	5
Douglas, Al	163.98	6
Kruttlin, Jon	162.26	7
Lapine, Bryan	162.26	7

TBWC members fished MWC Lake Winnebago

The TBWC team of Wayne VanDyke and Erich Carlson made the trip to Wisconsin's famed Lake Winnebago to fish the Cabelas MWC event held on June 29th and 30th. They had some interesting experiences both in the traveling and the fishing. After losing a day of pre fishing to a problem with the kicker, they endured the worst daytime bug hatch EVER, fishing in thick algae blooms in 95-100 degree heat. Late that night they were woken up by the Oshkosh Police knocking on the door telling them to open up. Thankfully, they had the wrong room! On the way to pre fish the next day, they blew the front tire on the truck on a in a concrete barricaded construction zone putting them in a very dangerous situation. Things got a little better from there. Once on the lake, they were able to locate some pretty good fish. They consistently caught fish that had winning potential. Then came day one, and the good fish pulled a disappearing act. While they went through a lot of fish, they didn't get the 3 to 5 pounders they had in practice. Feeling pretty well defeated after weighing in 11.35 pounds and sitting in 89th place out of 134 boats, they decided they needed to stay positive and just go out, fish, and have a good day on day two. That they did! Their big fish were on the take, and they weighed in an impressive 21.01 lbs for the 2nd biggest basket of the tournament on day two and rocketed up the standings 73 places to a very respectable 16th place finish and a paycheck. Great work guys! Way to gut it out! They will also be fishing the MWC in the Soo the third weekend in August the weekend after the TBWC club tournament as well.

Members should really consider fishing one or some of these other bigger events like the MWC, MWT, or FLW. You don't have to be a "PRO", you just need to have the desire to compete! Rest assured you are probably a better fisherman than you give yourself credit for. It would be great to have a couple of boats from our club working together at one of these events. One requirement though, is AN UNDERSTANDING WIFE!!!

James Farm Pond and Others

2012 Walleye Planting

From the James Farm Walleye Pond, we got the following spring fingerlings which were about 1.55” long:

Big Bradford Lk, Otsego Co (12,280)
Dixon Lk, Otsego Co (5,000)
Avery Lk, Montmorency Co (18,000)
Big Creek Impoundment, Crawford Co (6,840)
Crooked Lk, Montmorency Co (6,840)
Big Bear Lk, Otsego Co (20,000)
Opal Lk, Otsego Co (7,500)
Ess Lk, Montmorency Co (13,320)
Seven Mile Imp/Lake Winyah, Alpena Co (50,400)
Lk Esau, Presque Isle Co (14,400)

Sub Total 157,580

We also spent another day a week or so later draining the pond to harvest 2.1” fish and helping out a couple units in the UP with the following lakes:

Deer Lk, Alger Co (4,080)
Au Train Basin, Alger Co (8,598)

Sub Total 12,678

Grand Total 170,258

Our Reid Berney Pond near Alanson did not do as well, however, we were able to stock the following lakes from that pond with 1.7” fingerlings:

Caribou Lk, Chippewa Co (52,290)
McCollum Lk, Oscoda Co (17,640)
Kleber Pond, Cheboygan Co (9,000)
Frenchmans Lk, Chippewa Co (6,750)
Jones Lk, Crawford Co (4,000)

Total 89,780

And finally, with assistance from our sister fisheries unit in Bay City, they provided nearly 192,000 spring fingerlings for Black Lk in Cheboygan/Presque Isle Co.

A lot of unit ponds had problems statewide, the two in our DNR District at least held their own, despite being two small ponds with limited production.

Brown Trout

About 1/2 of the club members who were mailed BT raffle tickets returned them. If you haven't put them in the mail yet, please do so now.

Volunteers for the BT work schedule have not stepped forward this year. About 60 hours out of 220 have been filled. The schedule was mailed to all last month for all to select their time of choice.

Please call Denny Burns @ 989 354 2419 with your time you can VOLUNTEER to this project for the club.

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.

All items are at club cost.

Search <i>tbwalleye.com</i> for the latest tournament results, newsletters, and blog. Todd has posted the up to date tournament results including weights, and points earned.

****- Please let Erich (I've been officially Romeo'd) know the events you are involved with by emailing me at walleyesnyper@hotmail.com We'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments

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KIDS FISHING DAY

Saturday August 25th @ the Lafarge Paxton Quarry from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon
If Saturday weather is lousy it will be moved to Sunday

Committed boaters needed to take kids fishing.

We know this is happening in short order and if we can't get the boats we will fish from shore. A lot of events had to be worked around including the Air Show.

Prizes, Burgers, Hotdogs, Pop etc. at noon. Any kid, grandson, daughter, granddaughter, someone on the block can attend, membership not required. Fishing will be from shore and/or boat, bait provided. Some fishing gear will be available. If you have it, bring some fishing gear along with a pail for a great time. RSVP to Darwin Grabow at 989 354 4788.

Questions, call Darwin.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 11th, 2012 at 7:00 pm

ACC Besser Tech Center (New 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)

AGENDA:

- New Business
- Fishing
- Brown Trout Walleye Tournament
- Formalize stuff with the BT Committee People (Eric Kruczynski)
- Membership participation in BT Festival
- MWT Championship Tournament in Alpena
- Kids Fishing Day in August