

Thunder Bay Walleye Club

Newsletter

August, 2009

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 ****

- ***Saginaw Bay Outing, August 9***

For those planning on making this a weekend event, I hope you made your hotel reservations. I tried setting up some accommodations this past week and had no luck. So for those planning on staying in Augres, you will have to look elsewhere for rooms. The closest that I could locate with any availability to accommodate the 6-7 groups was Tawas for \$129. I did not hold any rooms since it was pretty pricey. In talking with the group that was planning on staying in Augres for Saturday night, most will be doing the commute on Saturday and Sunday. We could also plan to pull out by 7 or 8pm and stop at one of the bars along the way and have a burger and chat about what worked and what did not work for the day.

- ***St. Mary's River Weekend, August 28, 29, & 30***

Here is another change in plans for the Soo/St. Mary weekend outing that has been a great time since we first started the trek up north- our five star resort, Country Wood Cabins, has closed, and we had to find new accommodations for our stay. While I was in the Soo this past weekend for softball, I set up a bank of rooms at the Quality Inn, which is on the main drag as we pull off the expressway. The group will be on the first floor and will be able to park right outside the room windows. There is a direct hookup for electrical; you just have to bring a power strip to do multiple boats on the outlets. They offer a complete continental breakfast (homemade waffles and the works), and yes, there are smoking rooms available for those that want one. She has set the rooms up under "Thunder Bay Walleye Club" and are being held until 8/21/09 for \$59.99. The entire group will be together in the same wing- I can answer more questions at the meeting, and you can register by calling 906-635-6918. We also have a second choice which is the Budget Host Crestview Inn located closer to town and offers more suitable parking for boats and security. At this location, we can park the boat at the door of the motel room, and it has the same accommodations with continental breakfast, power, etc. and is \$62 for double beds or \$71 for queens. The rooms are equipped with refrigerator and microwaves and have coffee 24 hours a day. I have booked 10 rooms there as well, and he assured me that we could all be grouped together. Since some people do not have covers for their boats, this location is less of security risk because there is only one access point for vehicles to enter the property, where as at the Quality Inn, the parking lot is wide open. I recommend that we all choose to stay at the same place and there is plenty of room to gather for evening festivities. You can book your room by calling 1-800-955-5213. The vast majority of people want to use the Budget Inn vs the Quality based upon the fact that they will not have to remove their equipment at night. I nominate that we all choose The Budget Inn location.

- ***Brown Trout 2009***

Well the club has another year in helping the Michigan Brown Trout Festival. The club only gets credit for scheduled hours. Those are the time Brown Trout assigns us to be at the festival. The volunteer hours are time club members spend strictly volunteering. 25 members put in about 205 scheduled hours and 175.5 volunteer hours totaling 380.5 hours. I will have a detail on individual scheduled hours for your free membership in the September newsletter. Thank you for taking time to make this a success for the club.

Brown Trout is having a wrap up meeting the 24th of August and has a small survey to get comments on the festival. While most of us can only comment on the fishing side, please do and get it to me no later than the 20th of August via email or call Denny Burns 989 354 2419. I will have the survey at this months meeting

2009 - End of Festival Survey

1. What was the best part of this year's event? What went well?
2. What area(s) needs improving?
3. What is your suggestion for improvement?
4. Are you willing/able to take on more responsibility during the festival? In what area?

**** Club News ****

- ***Walleye Club Clothing***

If you are interested in getting a Walleye Club jacket, please give Steve Hubert a call @ 657-4646, 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 etc. at the monthly meetings for you to purchase. The Club ordered 36 Hanes fleece pullover-hooded sweatshirts in various colors and sizes for \$25.00.

- ***TBWC Web Site***

You can access the new web page at www.tbwalleye.com. Todd already put some information out there for us and would gladly take any additional information that you might have such as pictures or news. The sight is under development at this point. You should take a minute and see what it looks like and give us some input on what you would like to see on the web sight. If you have any pictures to add, you can do so on the web site or by contacting Todd through the web site. You can also BLOG (say what's on your mind) on this web sight. Please keep it to fishing related topics.

Besser Museum

The "Saturday Go Fish Family Fun Day" at the Besser Museum was another great success our club participated in. for Dave Birmingham, Carl Kelly, Bob Baughman and Sam Pusateri spent about 3 hours each tying crawler harnesses, talking fishing to a bunch of very interested kids. While this was on the Saturday of the Super Tourney at Brown Trout, some of these members managed to do the museum and the weigh-in at Brown Trout. Big thanks to you guys.

Kids Fishing Day

Kids fishing day will be August 15th from 10a until 2p at the Paxton Quarry on M-32. Dave Birmingham will have more info at the meeting.

****Club Tournaments****

- ***Lake Huron, July 12, 2009 7-3***

The day provided to be almost identical as the last year's tournament with high winds and rough water. We were pushing about 3-4's all day long making moving a tough choice. The week prior to the tournament some club members had really banged up the middle of the bay with good consistent fish pulling deep diving cranks in 20 to 28' of water. Many boats started the tournament running for about three minutes and shutting down just before the last channel marker. The only team that seemed to pull consistent fish in the spot was the team of Brian Matchett, Jim Watts, and Mark Haugraud who pulled fish

with crawlers. For the remainder of the group, singles and two to three fish seemed to be the only story. One group pulled a pig but no one else seemed to find the bounty like Matchett's crew (it must have been the scent of PBR's). The 1st place team was Larry Donajkowski, Don Harrison, and Al Douglas who headed out to North Point and pulled consistent fish weighing 5 fish weighing 22.4#. They targeted their catch with Reef Runners and crawler harnesses with Buggy Blades. They stated that the east side of the Nunn was the best and purple seemed to be the ticket. The group did quite well and pocketed \$630. Second place went to Bill Wilson and Ed Cohoon weighing 4 fish for 16.3# running the North Shore using Hot-n-Tots and Reef Runners. Third place went to Brian, Jim, and Mark who stuck with the crawlers for the entire day and were very pleased with their 5 fish and 15.76#. They were using snap weights and 1oz in-line weights with blue and red being the hottest color.

- ***Brown Trout 18-19th Walleye Extravaganza 2***

The story was much the same for weather as the weekend before: winter gear, gloves, rain gear and whatever we could wear throughout the day. The winner of the event was Erik Mackenzie, Erich Carlson, and John Kruttlin who pulled a nice bag on day two to garner the win. They fished very hard to pull the fish early on day two and banged out the areas that they concentrated on for fish while pre-fishing throughout the week.

- They will give a full report at the meeting on the what, where and how for the weekend happenings.
- Erich and Wayne also pulled nice fish at the end of the tournament to get board fish on the last day.
- It's good to see that the club had a strong showing for the tournament but the numbers were down for the event. If you have any suggestions on what the club/Brown Trout can do to increase participation in the event, please share suggestions/ideas at the meeting.

*****NOTICE*****

1. **The Saginaw Bay –Launch Tawas (change from Tawas to AuGres)**
2. **St. Marys River – Sault Sainte Marie --Aune-Osborn Campground changed from Sat the 29th to Sun, August 30th.**

******Reminder that there is a gold mine of info on how to fish walleye at the Alpena County Library in VHS, DVD,CD and written format by In Fishermen courtesy of our club.******

Upcoming Activities –

1. Saginaw Bay, August 9, 2009 7-3 **Launch changed from Tawas to AuGres**
2. Make your reservations for the Soo (fishing day may change)
3. St. Mary River, Sunday August 30, 2009 7-3 **Changed from Saturday 8/29 to Sunday 8/30**
4. Hubbard Lake, Sunday September 13, 2009 7-3
5. Grand Lake, Sunday September 27, 2009 7-3

Other Events:

****- Please let Romeo know the events you are involved with by calling 356-1703 work 358-5219 email bourdager@charter.net – we'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments -****

**** Other Information****

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Theodore Jaskowski
William Wilson**

**Alpena
Ossineke**

Ed Cohoon

Hillman

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 12, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

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

Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month

AGENDA:

- Old Business
 - Update on the Saginaw Bay
 - Fishing update on the Bay
 - Brown Trout review and update
 - Kids fishing day
- New Business
 - Discussion on the Walleye Extravaganza with Eric Mackenzie, Erich Carlson, John Kruttlin
 - Plans for the Soo
 - Jesse Besser Museum Activity for July- Report from Dave Birmingham