

THUNDER BAY WALLEYE CLUB NEWSLETTER

September 2012

PO Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

Officers

President Jim Leeseberg
Vice President Dave Birmingham
Finance/Recording Secretary Dennis Burns

Board of Directors

Bill ONeil
Richard Hubert
Eric MacKenzie
Kevin Cosbitt

Club Tournaments

Hubbard Lake-September 9th 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Last contest of the year! Come on out for what promises to be a great bite. Year after year, Hubbard is one of the most consistent lakes we fish. Don't miss it!

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

Top 50 of 110 Fishing thru 8 of 9 Tournaments

Name	Points Best 5 of 9	Rank
Harrison, Don	383.08	1
Carlson, Erich	380.34	2
Watts, Jim	358.96	3
Byce, Mark	349.19	4
Douglas, Al	313.82	5
VanDyke, Wayne	303.66	6
MacKenzie, Eric	283.46	7
Kruczynski, Eric	271.94	8
Skiba, Ben	271.94	8
Gabara, Nick	256.03	9
Donajkowski, Larry J	255.97	10

As summer is fading into fall, it's a good time to reflect on the last few club tournaments of the year. It's been a while since we had a recap of the recent events, so it'll be nice to take a look back and discuss some of the events we missed.

First, we should start with congratulating team PBR on their Night Eyes win. Somehow we missed this one, like I said, it's been a while. That event was held down to one night this year due to unsafe fishing conditions on day one. They had a great first pass down at Scarecrow that was good enough for a 25 pound plus basket and the win.

Long Lake-July29th

The word was that this was a tough bite with only two boats able to scratch up a five fish limit! However, it was the team of Rob Frantz, Tim DeWyre, and Matt Hunter that pulled this one off with a great 3 fish weight “for Long Lake” of 9.44 pounds. A dandy five pound plus kicker helped the cause, and add in the couple other quality fish they had and it was a done deal. Taking the number two spot was the always consistent team of Al Douglas and Don Harrison with 7.86. And it was Mark Byce, Teddy Kruttlin, and Jim Watts trolling their way into third. Recreational traffic always presents a challenge on Long Lake, yet some of teams always seem to coax a limit or two. We’ll have to talk this one through during our tournament meeting and see if there is interest in returning. The launch at the park launch in a word is terrible.

Rockport- August 5th

Well, we finally got a Rockport tournament in! It was interesting to say the least. Of course the wind had to blow, and most of us endured four to six foot seas most of the day. The good news was that the fish cooperated for the most part. Some of us had expected the winning weight to be pushing 30 pounds, and while not quite hitting that mark, it was Eric Kruczynski, Nick Gabara, Ben Skiba, and Bill Skiba cranking around Middle Island that brought a 27.11 basket to the scale to take the win. Erich Carlson and Wayne VanDyke managed a solid 24.22 pound basket pulling crawlers south of Middle Island for 2nd place followed by Brian Matchett and Jim Watts (2/3 of team PBR) with a very respectable 20.70 pound bag for third. Keep your fingers crossed for better conditions next year.

St. Mary’s- August 18th

It was great to be back in the Soo! It’s always a fun place to fish, but not always easy, as many of the boats struggled to weigh a full basket. It was the team of Erich Carlson and Wayne VanDyke waiting out five bites in Lake George. They worked the Horseshoe and the Hay Point Area to put together a five fish limit that was good for 16.63 pounds and the first place check. Brett Anderson, Bill O’Neil, and Pete Nowak worked just South of Lake George and in Lake George to come up with a four fish basket weighing 9.64 pounds for 2nd place. Local Soo duo, Jeff Barr and Randy Matheson worked the main channel and monument hopped their way to third place with five fish that were good for 8.49 pounds on the scale.

Other Tournament News

The 2012 Michigan Brown Trout Festival Walleye Extravaganza title belongs to two of our newer members. Andrei Sawruk and Jeff Barr shrugged off a tough pre-fish, and played the patience game to pin down a well-deserved win with 40.95 lbs. Taking second place was the team of Jesse Spicer, Jeremy Glomski, and Dustin Crittenden weighing 39.10 lbs. Way to go guys.

3 rd Kal Ustishen	36.50#	4 th Dean Miller	36.50#	5 th Romeo Bourdage	35.65#
6 th Jon Kruttlin	34.90#	7 th Jim Leeseberg	33.90#	8 th Nick Gabara	33.50#
9 th Wayne Van Dyke	29.25#	10 th Chris Wade	27.70#	11 th David Birmingham	24.30#
12 th Ben Martlock	24.20#	13 th Martin Skiba	23.00#	14 th Eric Mackenzie	22.25#
15 th Bob Baughman	22.10#	16 th Bruce Kirschner	21.30#	17 th Larry Donajkowski	20.80#
18 th Denny Bowen	18.60#	19 th Dennis Dixon	13.30#	20 th Edward Kasper	11.95#
21 st Carl Hatala	11.60#	22 nd Tom Sharp	10.15#	23 rd Bryan Kozlowski	3.85#

The 2012 MWT Championship congrats to Wayne VanDyke and Bruce Mueller on their Michigan Walleye Tour State Championship win on Thunder Bay. They got it done on day one, and it's a good thing they did as days two and three were canceled to violent winds that resulted in small craft advisories and unsafe fishing conditions. Jon Kruttlin and Ryan Sagady also did a heck of a job on day one claiming second place amongst a very talented group of fisherman. Awesome job guys!

Carl Kelly and Dave Birmingham put the final touches on the MWT championship here in Alpena. Dave put together the captains meeting and meal at Nowicki Sausage Co. on north second avenue. With so many activities going on in Alpena, Carl finally found a location for the MWT Championship Awards Banquet at the 19th Hole. The event was suppose to take place about 5 PM the final day but was moved to 12 noon to get the fishermen on the road home earlier with the last two day fishing being canceled. Hats off to Dave and Carl for their efforts to get it done as well as the 19th Hole being able to move the event from 5 PM to 12 PM. Both locations did a great job with the presentation as well as the quality of the food.

The Saginaw Bay Walleye Club runs the MWT and was impressed with the quality of the fishery here, the community as well as the TBWC.

The weekend after the TBWC event in the Soo, Wayne VanDyke and Erich Carlson fished the Cabela's Masters Walleye Circuit, also in the Soo and fished their way into 2nd place on day one. Unfortunately they were unable to make it happen on day two as their bite went stone cold dead (Cameraman Curse) They made a last ditch attempt to put some fish in the box by hitting one of their river spots, and were able to pull two smaller eyes that gave them just enough weight to cash an 11th place check. It really was a tough bite for most of the field, but as always a few guys had it figured all the way out. Erich and Wayne had a good year cashing a check in all three MWC events. If anyone is interested in fishing any of these types of events, let one of them know, and they can give you more information. It would be fun to have a couple TBWC teams fishing some of these tournaments.

KIDS FISHING DAY

2012 Kids Fishing Day

Last Saturday (Sept 1st) was a great day on the water especially for the kids that attended "Kids Fishing Day" on the waters of the old shale beds property. Turn out wasn't as good as it could have been or should have been, but I suspect this was because of a lack of knowledge on the part of Alpena mothers and fathers of how exceptional the fishing can be there. From my experience, it is the one place that I would absolutely guarantee that every kid will catch fish!!!

There were 21 kids attending, 10 boats, and numerous adults that arrived for the Saturday event. Fishing was great, lots of food, and many more prizes were available than kids that attended. We will save the leftovers for next year. (Not the food)!

Thanks to the Thunder Bay Walleye Club, The Sportsman Club, and the Longbeards who donated \$600 in prizes, food, and bait for this special day. Recognition must be given to Darwin Grabow who was the main coordinator of this outing, and Bucks Bait and Tackle who supply, and **package** all of the prizes. Darwin says that Buck and Laurie always go that extra mile when we ask them to help out with this fun event.

Even that guy we call the "Weather Man" has to get special thanks this year. He gave us a beautiful day!!!

2012 Brown Trout Volunteers

Memberships have been upgraded for the following members who volunteered more than 5 hours at BT Festival for the TBWC.

Roger Barc, Dave Birmingham, Denny Burns, Erich Carlson, Darwin Grabow, Ralph Grabow, Pam Hubert, Carl Kelly, Jim Leeseberg, Chuck Marcinkiewicz, Mike Mcelligatt, Mike McGirr, Jackie Oliver, Bill O'Neil, Wayne VanDyke, Rissa Budnick, Marty Cirulis, Dave Golder, Ed Czarnecki, Mike Wisniewski, Dianna (Don) Harrison.

Thank you to all who helped make this another successful year for the GT Festival.

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 tbwalleye.com 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 walleesnyper@hotmail.com We'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments
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OTHER NEWS

Denny Burns will no longer be the club rep for the Brown Trout or do the TBWC fishing tournament tracking.

It's time for new blood to step into the TBWC functions. There will be list of tasks for each position at this months meeting and in future newsletters.

I will continue to do the membership list, financials and be involved with the newsletter and other stuff for the TBWC.

NEXT MEETING: *September 12th*

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:

Past Tournaments

Banquet

Brown Trout

Club Tournaments