

# Thunder Bay Walleye Club Newsletter

Sept 2017

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

## CLUB TOURNAMENTS

### Club Tourney Results

**Thunder Bay** - Launch Alpena Boat Harbor Sun July 9<sup>th</sup> 7AM - 3PM

This club is scheduled for the club members who may fish Michigan Walleye Tournament during the Michigan Brown Trout 9 day tournament.

40 contestants plied the waters of Thunder Bay as well as locations north and south on Lake Huron.

1<sup>st</sup> place goes to Matt Franklin, Dan and Gary VanMassenhove weighing 5 fish for 27.58 lbs. and their largest coming in at 6.72 lbs. largest of the tournament.

2<sup>nd</sup> was Nick and Benalli Gabara, Eric and Gage Kruczynski weighing 5 fish for 22.04 lbs.

3<sup>rd</sup> is Erich and Brady Carlson and Wayne VanDyke weighing 5 fish for 21.35 lbs.

4<sup>th</sup> place was Adam Birk and Marc McCaleb weighing 4 fish for 19.03 lbs.

Their largest was 5.80 lbs.

Fish bite was tough for most as 24 out of 40 contestants weighed fish.

**Rockport** - Launch Rockport, **Alternate Grand Lake** Sun Aug 6<sup>th</sup> 7AM - 3PM

32 contestants fish with 20 weighing fish.

1<sup>st</sup> place was Denny Bowen and Wayne Winter weighing 5 fish 18.02 lbs. and their largest was 4.72 lbs.

2<sup>nd</sup> place was Carl Hatala Mark Meyers and Josh Remelius weighing 5 fish for 17.73 lbs. and their 5.45 lb. fish was the largest of the tournament.

3<sup>rd</sup> place was Eric and Gage Kruczynski, Dan and Gary VanMassenhove weighing 5 fish for 17.49 lbs. and their largest was 4.38 lbs.

4<sup>th</sup> place was Mark and Seth Haugerud, Eric MacKenzie weighing 3 fish for 11.03 lbs. and their largest 4.61 lbs.

**Tawas City** - Launch DNR Boat Launch Sun Aug 20<sup>th</sup> AM - 3PM

25 contestants fished with 23 weighing fish. Weather was supposed to be 5 to 10 with average speed around 8 out of the south west. However when we went to the launch wind was already exceeding that and continued to increase all day. As you know Saginaw Bay roughs up easily and with it blowing out of the south west waves increased to 3 to 4 feet and larger. Ironically one boat went to Alpena, a 63 mile journey one way and weather was calm wind wise all day until they started to get near Oscoda and encountered increasing wind and waves.

1<sup>st</sup> place goes to Denny Bowen and Wayne Winter weighing 5 fish 18.99 lbs. and the largest of the tournament at 5.68 lbs.

2<sup>nd</sup> place is Matt Franklin, Dan and Gary VanMassenhove weighing 5 fish for 18.77 lbs. and their largest was 5.51 lbs.

3<sup>rd</sup> place was Carter and Craig Gushow and Doug Cook weighing 5 fish 15.70lbs. Their largest was 4.49 lbs.

4<sup>th</sup> place was Eric and Gage Kruczynski, and Jon Kruttlin weighing 5 fish for 13.68 lbs.

**2017 Thunder Bay Walleye Club  
Top 16 By Rank of 104 Entrants  
Thru Tourney #7**

**Best 5 of 9 Tournaments**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Points Best 5 of 9</b>	<b>Rank</b>
VanMassenhove, Dan	436.16	1
VanMassenhove, Gary	436.16	1
Kruczynski, Eric	433.04	2
Karner, Mike	377.28	3
Franklin, Matt	339.10	4
Kruczynski, Gage	335.11	5
Hume, Adam	314.91	6
Peterson, Adam	310.83	7
Wade, Chris	310.83	7
Hall, Jim	287.04	8
Kozlowski, Bryan	278.65	9
Mulvahill, Chris	258.28	10
Carlson, Erich	255.97	11
Winter, Wayne	243.18	12
Krutttlin, Jon	223.40	13
Schellie, Dillon	218.26	14

**2013,14,15,16 Angler  
of the year  
Eric Kruczynski**

The last 2 tournaments will crown the 2017 Angler(s) of the Year.

**Next TBWC Tournaments**

**Hubbard Lake** - Launch DNR East Bay Sun Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 7AM - 3PM  
**Thunder Bay** - Launch Alpena Boat Harbor Sun Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 7AM - 3PM

**The Fletcher Library has magazines and DVD's on how when and where walleye fishing. Take advantage of these, they may give you some ideas on how to improve your fishing attack instead of doing the same thing day after day. These were purchased by the club for all to use.**

**NEW FISHING QUICK TOURNAMENTS  
FOR CLUB MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC  
NON POINT**

Hey Denny,

I've been talking to some other guys in the walleye club and we are going to be starting a weekday walleye league. First week will be July 6 in Alpena. 6:30pm-10:00 pm. Three walleye limit. \$20 a boat. 6 lines per boat. Do not need to be a TBWC member. Open to the public.

July 6 Thunder Bay	Launch Alpena Boat Harbor
July 25 Black River	Launch Black River
August 10 Rockport	Launch Rockport
<del>August 24 Harrisville</del>	<del>Launch Harrisville Harbor</del> CANCELLED
Sept 7 Hubbard Lake	Launch DNR East Bay
Sept 21 Thunder Bay	Launch Alpena Boat Harbor

If you have questions contact Jon Kruttlin 989 370 9992 or email [jkruttlin@hotmail.com](mailto:jkruttlin@hotmail.com)

**BROWN TROUT**

It's been reported this years BT Festival was a success thanks in part to the TBWC members who volunteered their time on setup and tear down, weigh-in, parking for the MWT as well as working to get additional prize money towards the MWT/BT walleye tournament.

The club wants to thank all who helped in 2016 for our times scheduled.

The TBWC members who volunteered for scheduled time and met the minimum scheduled time for a membership upgrade are:

Roger Barc, Dave Birmingham, Denny Burns, Bill Boucher, Marty Cirulis, Clyde Derosia, Darwin Grabow, Al Hess, Chuck Hoerl, Robert Ide, Glen Klimczak, Mike McGirr, Reno Massetti, Steve Moore, and Ewald Sommerfield.

**BIG BROWNIE**

On July 18th, 2017, Jan Stepanski reeled in Big Brownie with teammate Robert Westenbarger in the 43rd Annual Brown Trout fishing tournament. This is a first in Brown Trout history, as never before has the current year Big Brownie been caught DURING the fishing tournament! Bringing in Big Brownie comes with a \$25,000 cash prize and of course, well-earned bragging rights for years to come! Congratulations Jan and Robert. Big Brownie, 3.70 lbs. and 20".

**Congratulations to BT 2017 Raffle Winners for \$8000.00 Trip of a Lifetime!**

1st - James Tanner  
2nd - \$500.00 Todd Spigelmyre

\$100.00 Winners  
Leo Filarski  
Bart Cipolla  
William Martin  
Glen Willrich  
Deb Kaiser  
Doc Raffle Winner - Tim Wieczorkowski

**MWT/BT 2 DAY Walleye Tournament**

**78** boats largest entry of all BT tournaments composed of MWT and TBWC members 2 to 3 contestants in each boat plied the waters of the bay and Lake Huron in search of the elusive walleye.

Winners were Jake Trombley, Peter Schafer and Jeff Breasbois from the Saginaw Bay area with a 10 fish total weight of 53.94 lbs. while Jon Kruttlin, Bryan Lapine TBWC members and Ryan Sagady former TBWC member scored second weighing 10 fish for a total weigh of 48.35 lbs. Other members of the club placed well in the final standings.

**Largest Walleyes**

Largest fish for the 1<sup>st</sup> day were Joe Krzyaniak and Joe Kubiak TBWC members 6.85 lbs. and Ed and Amada Kasper 6.84 lbs.

Largest fish for the 2<sup>nd</sup> day were Kyle Wirgau, David and Brent Birmingham TBWC members 7.36 lbs. and Jake Trombley, Peter Schafer and Jeff Breasbois weighing 6.75 lbs.

540 fish were brought to the scale.

Fish that did not make it were cleaned by TBWC members and around 258# of fillets were then given to the St. Bernard Friendship Room. Members that helped cleaning fish were Denny Burns, Dave Golder, Jim LaFluer, Mike McGirr and Jerry Nowicki and Ken Wahoski.

The MWT will not be returning to Alpena in 2018 as their fishing venue changes each year. They will be missed as this tournament here is popular due to the quality of the fishery and Alpena.

Considering lodging, food and pre fishing the days before the event as well as the tournament during BT the financial impact to the area will be missed next year.

The TBWC is in the process of looking at continuing the 2 day tournament for next year.

## OTHER FISHING STUFF

TBWC, SPORTSMENS CLUB, SIERA CLUB LAFARGE KIDS DAY  
IS SCHEDULED FOR August 19<sup>th</sup> 2017

BOATS ARE ALLOWED OR FISH FROM SHORE  
9AM - 2PM

LUNCH, BAIT, FISHING TACKLE, AWARDS ALL PROVIDED

CONTACT DARWIN GRABOW FOR MORE INFO

Darwin reports that 19 kids fished with enough boats to get them all on the water with their chaperones. Weather did cooperate. All had a great time with all the activities as well as the lunch and awards.

### SAFARI WISH HUNTERS

The Northeast Michigan Chapter of Safari Club International hosted 7 young men and women for weekend of fishing and fun last week as Safari Wish Hunters. The NE Michigan Chapter - SCI also provided lodging at the Alpena Ramada Inn for the "Wish Fishermen/Women" and their families.

Six boat captains - Carl Hatala, Scott Gauthier, Jason Witkowski, John Martin, Marty Skiba and Jason Snyder donated their time and equipment to ensure a safe, fun filled fishing experience for the men and women, all of whom have experienced a variety of disabilities.

### "Shivering" on Thunder Bay

"Shivering" is a very fun casting technique that can be deadly on summer Walleyes. Last month, I had the cool opportunity to film a Next Bite show on Thunder Bay with hall of fame angler, Keith Kavajecz. Keith happened to be in Michigan filming a show on Saginaw Bay with Bruce and Nick DeShano from Off Shore Tackle Company and had indicated that he really wanted to do a show that featured casting "Shiver Minnows" on Northern Lake Huron. To my surprise, I received a phone call asking if I still had a casting bite going, and if so, would I be interested in filming a "Next Bite" **Shivering** show. I spent the few days prior to their arrival scoping out the bite with Adam Peterson, and was able to pin down a very good "Shivering" bite. Keith, Jake Romanack and (Cameraman) Jake Flaa came up and spent a couple days at my place and we were able to put together a great show. We were able to capture nine nice Walleyes on film casting Moonshine Shiver Minnows. This "Next Bite" episode will be aired sometime this coming January and February and will feature the technique of "Shivering" we'll explain the importance of cadence, boat positioning, and what to look for as far as locating fish. I will let everyone know the air dates when I find out. Very cool experience! Here are a few pics.



A couple "Shiver" eyes before the show!

### Michigan Out of Doors Episode

Last month, I also had the opportunity to film a segment on Michigan Out of Doors Television with Gabe VanWormer. Most of this segment will feature my wildlife art and frames, however Brady, Gabe, and I, did spend a few nice hours on Hubbard Lake as well. We put a few Walleyes in the boats and had a nice afternoon. I will also let you know when this is scheduled to air. Should be a cool show. Below is a pic of Brady with a nice Hubbard Lake Walleye!



## Club Clothing and Other Stuff

We have restocked our T Shirts, Hats, Decals and Sweatshirts etc. Contact Richard Hubert for more info 989-379-4614 or see him at our club meetings. NEW HAT JUST RECEIVED.

## FOR SALE ITEMS

IF YOU WANT AN ITEM IN THE FOLLOWING NEWSLETTERS CONTACT  
DENNY BURNS 989 354 2419  
OR EMAIL INFO TO [JACKIEODENNYB@FRONTIER.COM](mailto:JACKIEODENNYB@FRONTIER.COM)

### NEW

*THE PLAN IS TO LIMIT FOR SALE ITEMS TO 90 DAYS UNLESS ITEMS ARE SOLD EARLIER. IF ITEMS ARE SOLD OR YOU WANT TO CONTINUE THE ADD CONTACT DENNY BURNS AT THE ABOVE EMAIL or phone #.*

NEW 7/4/17

Lund Pro-V 2075 IFS

Black 2009 Lund Pro-v IFS, 250 Mercury Verado (369 hours), 9.9 Mercury 4-stroke kicker, 101 lb 36v MinnKota Terrova with I pilot, Lowrance HDS-12 Gen1 with cisco mount at counsel, 3 new DEKA AGM Group 31 batteries in the bow with Cabelas 3 bank 20 amp charger, 2 Exide XRF-31D ROADFORCE AGM-200 for the main motor with Cabelas 2 bank 20 amp charger, 5ft Traxstech rail with 6 rodholders, snap-in carpet, walk thru windshield, Trollmaster, Bimini top. Shorlandr trailer, tires are 2 years old. Boat is well maintained. Asking \$39,500 OBO, will provide extra pics upon request.

Price: 39,500 Contact Jesse Spicer 989 464 8249 Email [jessspicer@hotmail.com](mailto:jessspicer@hotmail.com)

### WavePro Air Suspension Pedestals

I have recently installed the WavePro Air Suspension Pedestals to my boat. I gave them a real test on my NWT trip to Lake Erie. I have to say they were GREAT! Nicest ride I have ever had on big, bad water. No launching or bouncing. No "bottoming-out" or back jarring. I highly recommend the WavePro Air Pedestals for anyone looking for an easier ride on rough water. The air spring chamber allows for 0-200 psi of air spring preload to accommodate a wide range of weights. The WavePro Pedestals can be purchased through John Unkovich (989-727-2797) at Viking Marine on Hubbard Lake. If you have any questions about the WavePro Air Suspension Pedestals, give me a call. (989-255-8442).

Wayne Van Dyke

6/1/17

## SERVICES

**Boat & RV Fiberglass repair--** Mid Michigan Fiberglass Inc. Owner Steve Schnettler, 1809 27th St. Bay City Michigan 989-895-7000  
[www.midmichiganfiberglass.com](http://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 Canvas Services and Repairs all Minnkota products including Cannon Downriggers. 989-464-1191.

Looking for upgrades, repairs, and now **Summer Breakdowns**  
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.

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday SEPT 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7pm

MEETING LOCATION IS IN ROOM 126

Besser Tech Center

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:** Club Tournaments for 2017, Brown Trout, Fishing Review  
Banquet to a different date, Open discussion on any topic.