

Thunder Bay Walleye Club Newsletter

December 2013

PO Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

Officers

President
Vice President
Finance/Recording Secretary

Jim Leeseberg
Dave Birmingham
Dennis Burns

Board of Directors

Bill O'Neil
Richard Hubert
Eric MacKenzie
Kevin Cosbitt

And,Let there be ice

It looks like we are in for a good ice fishing season. There was actually fishable ice prior to the end of November! We haven't seen that in a few years. Of course this kind of skinny ice fishing is not for the faint of heart, and the utmost precautions must be taken to ensure one's safety, including fishing with at least one other person, including carrying safety equipment such as a rope, ice picks, a flotation device, and a cell phone (waterproofed) of course. Or, if you aren't the type of person to live on the edge, you could wait a couple weeks until there's a bit more ice underfoot! Be safe, bundle up, and catch a bunch!

TBWC Reel Fun Ice Fishing Raffle

The club did get our raffle license for the Reel Fun Ice Fishing Tourney February 15th 2014 at Grand Lake. Raffle drawing will be held right after the tournament ends. The prize structure will be the same as in years past, and Jim Leeseberg will once again be picking up the prizes from Frank's in Linwood It would be greatly appreciated if you could sell some tickets as this **can** be a great fundraiser for the club, either pick them up at the December meeting, or contact Denny (989-354-2419) he can mail them to you. Tickets are \$2 ea or 3 for \$5. 1st place is an Eskimo Eskape 3 man shanty valued at \$699.00, 2nd place is a Vexilar FL-18 fish finder valued at \$489.00, 3rd place is a 8" Polar Fire Ice Auger valued at \$300.00, 4th place is a Vexilar LPS- Handheld Sonar valued at \$139.00 and 5th is a Jet Sled XL with hitch valued at \$110.00. Nice prizes for a two to five dollar investment.

Great Christmas stocking stuffer.

Calling all Augers

Get your augers running! We will once again be the HOLEMASTERS of the 2014 Reel Fun Ice Fishing Tournament. The more volunteers we have the better. We will be drilling between 1000 and 1200 holes on Friday, February 14th. There is usually a little fun and spirits after the big drilling event as well, so if you can plan to spare an hour or two of your time, it would be much appreciated. Details at our February meeting on drill time start.

2014 TBWC Schedule will be set at the December meeting.

The club members in attendance at the December meeting will be setting the 2014 club tournament schedule after the regular meeting. There is a strong interest, as well as good reasoning to have Long and Grand as well as on the Bay in June on the schedule in 2014. If you have any input, please attend the meeting, or send your ideas before the December meeting to Erich Carlson at walleynesnyper@hotmail.com and I will bring them up in our discussion. We would like to have more input as to what waters our members are interested in fishing.

Brown Trout

We will be working on nailing down our Brown Trout proposal to them this month. I can have info on our last summer tourneys and the BT rules for the Walleye Tourney and their general rules. As you should be aware, the TBWC is looking to take over the running of the Two Day Walleye Extravaganza during the Brown Trout Festival. We are looking to implement REAL and effective changes in the way this tournament has been handled.

Please look over the following list of changes that are being proposed, it is by no means complete or final. If you feel something is missing please let Dave Birmingham, Erich Carlson, or Denny Burns know. We want to get together with the BT executive committee in December.

The tournament will (should) be 100% PAY BACK unless the Brown Trout is a Major Sponsor. They took 10 percent of the sponsor donated money and entry fees from the tournament last year, yet had absolutely NO part in raising money or finding sponsors. In addition, they have never provided anything for the Walleye Tournament entrants

similar to what is provided for the “Super Tournament” and Ladies Day. There was no verification of weights at the table as well as no weight slip to have entrants sign and receive a copy each day. Not able to weigh in for the largest walleye of the day or general BT tournament (if registered in the BT general tournament) until all walleye tournament contestants had weighed in. So you had to come back to the weigh station a second time.

- 1.) The TBWC will run the rules meeting at pre-determined location.
- 2.) The take-off sequence will be determined by order of registration.
- 3.) Each boat will be given a “Boat Board” with their number. The same number will be kept for both days.
- 4.) There will be a launch (take-off) boat that will lead the field out prior to take off.
- 5.) The launch boat will call off each boat’s number and show boat board number when it is their turn to take off.
- 6.) Upon return, there will be a tournament official at the break wall to ensure all boats are back in, off plane inside the buoys by 3:00 P.M.) As you idle by, hold your boat board up to be recorded.
- 7.) Weigh in will be first come first serve.
- 8.) (Boat Board) and registration card must be turned at the weigh in.
- 9.) There must be NO band playing or any other music during the weigh-in.
- 10.) The TBWC will provide an MC/ANNOUNCER.
- 11.) Your biggest five fish will be weighed.
- 12.) After your total weight has been determined, you may choose to weigh your largest Walleye(s) if you are registered in the regular tournament.
- 13.) Your weight will be announced and you will receive a weigh slip which must be signed to verify your weight.
- 14.) Your (Boat Board) will be given back to you at boat check on Day 2.
- 15.) Take-off sequence will be reversed on Day 2.

NOT SO GOOD NEWS

Harold Miller DNR passed away recently. He was one of the lead DNR people involved with the James Farm walleye rearing pond to upgrade and tinkering with the feed, time in the pond as well as many other details to get the best production as possible. Walleye club members who helped fill, feed, harvest etc. became close to Harold and other DNR people throughout the years. He will be missed by many.

Scientists Confirm Asian Carp Reproducing in Great Lakes Watershed

October 31st, 2013

U.S. Geological Survey and Bowling Green University report released Monday confirmed that at least one species of Asian carp – grass carp – are reproducing in the Great Lakes watershed.

Grass carp found in Lake Erie were determined to be capable of reproduction. Though not as destructive as silver or bighead carp, grass carp are also an invasive species, require similar conditions for reproduction and survival and can also disrupt aquatic habitats.

“I can safely say that my members would say the failure of the federal government to act on permanent separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River is . . . unconscionable,” said Erin McDonough, executive director of Michigan United Conservation Clubs, in an interview with MIRS News. She also suggested that the state create an emergency response fund to contain Asian carp.

Asian carp disrupt aquatic ecosystems by out-competing native species for species at the bottom of the food chain, starving out species higher up like popular sport fish. If they become established in the Great Lakes, they could disrupt the region’s \$7 billion sport fishing industry as well as the ecology of the lakes.

Originally imported to southern United States aquaculture facilities to clean retention ponds, Asian carp escaped into the Mississippi River and have proceeded steadily northward, disrupting the river’s fishery along the way. They’ve been found in the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal which artificially connects the Mississippi and Great Lakes watersheds and their eDNA, which detects their presence, has been found on the lakeward side of electronic barriers designed to keep them out of Lake Michigan.

The Lake Erie finding is the first time a species of Asian carp has been confirmed to be reproducing within the Great Lakes watershed.

Please consider contributing to the Newsletter!

Please consider contributing to the newsletter! Do you have a fishing or hunting story that is worthy of sharing? Do you have any fantastic pictures to share? Do you have an awesome recipe that you are willing to share? It doesn’t necessarily have to be about fish. It would certainly make the newsletter more interesting. If you have something you’d like to share please send it to Erich Carlson’s e-mail: walleynyper@hotmail.com. I’ll be sure it gets in! The author can remain anonymous if you so desire, just indicate your preference when submitting something to Erich Carlson.

We will have an assortment of club clothing at this meeting for Christmas gifts.

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.

Here is a list of high quality hooded sweat shirts we have left.

Stone washed light blue, 1 M, 4 L, 4 XL, 1 XXL at \$30.00 ea.

Dark Grey, 4 L, 5 XL, 1 XXL, 3 XXXL at \$25.00 ea.

Light Grey, 1 M, 5 XL at \$25.00 ea. Dark Blue, 4 XL at \$25.00 ea.

All have a small club logo on the left breast.

All items are at club cost.

Looking for upgrades, repairs, winter layup, shrink wrap? 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 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.

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 know the events you are involved with by calling 595-3295 or 464-5623 or email me at walleeyesnyper@hotmail.com we'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments.

New Members

Craig and Terri McManus of Topeka, Ks

I will be spending a lot of time at Lost Lake Woods Club as my wife and I retired this last spring. I intend to do a lot of fishing on Huron and Hubbard. I will be looking forward to "picking brains" for both lakes! I will be back up north in mid-April next spring and hope to start making meetings then. Thanks for the information thus far!

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday December 11th, 2013

ACC Besser Tech Center (Room -126) 7pm, 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)

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE PAID NOW.

Single person membership is \$15.00 per year. Family membership is \$25.00 includes all persons living in your household.

If you don't know if your memberships are due contact Denny Burns at 989 354 2419 or see me at a meeting.

Make checks out to TBWC.