

Thunder Bay Walleye Club

Newsletter

January, 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 ****

- ***Ice Fishing Tournament***

We are heading up an ice-fishing tournament ***January 18, 2009 on Hubbard Lake*** (ice dependent). It will be rather simple with the total length of the largest walleye and perch taking half the pot each. We have attached the flyer that will be posted at all the local bait shops. You should feel free to copy and post as you please. The registration will be at Side Door Bait and Tackle on 3585 Woodlawn which is between Mt. Mariah Ski Lodge and the water. The owner, Len Boarraco 989-736-6418, will be open at 6am for registration and bait. Please plan on getting your bait at Side Door since he has agreed to open early for registration and thank him for his willingness to help us out. You will register with him and pay the \$10 at that time. We will start @ 7am (no sooner) at the south end DNR launch and measuring is at 3pm also at the south end DNR launch. The event is open to the public and winner takes all. Let's hope for cold weather and a great turn out.

There is a flier for this tourney in this mailing. If you would, put it up on your bulletin board at work, bait shop, or where ever you can think of.

- ***February Speaker ****John Gilman*******

John has offered to come and speak to the club on walleye fishing for the February meeting. We will take care of quick business and move right into letting John do his thing. He suggested that we pick a topic that he can present on for the club or a variety of topics if needed. Please feel free to contact me with your ideas at bourdager@charter.net or call 356-1703 and share them. John will also be here to sell his new product he has offered to the club at cost, Big Bit Baits. He will have catalogues and order forms available that evening. I have some catalogues if you would like to pick one up at the January meeting. Again, please get with me to help give John a target area, so he can bring the necessary equipment to go along with his presentation.

- ***River Center- Sportsman's Island***

I would like to thank the group of club members that have been attending the planning committee meetings to assist with this effort to raise money for the project. The Reel Fun Ice Fishing event is planned for February 14, 2009 from noon to 3pm on Grand Lake. Jim Leeseberg, Carl Renard, Carl Kelly, and Dave Birmingham have been our representatives supporting our club's support for the event. Right now, TBWC are going to be in charge of drilling the holes, transportation, and logistics for the event. We will hear more at both the January and February meetings regarding this project. Please make sure that if you choose to assist that you contact one of the above club members to offer your assistance. In talking with Jim, he is pretty excited about the event and feels that it is going to be very worthwhile and glad that the TBWC is actively participating.

- ***Lance Valentine***

- Only time available is March 1st.

- ***Troy Walwood***

Troy will not be available until around March 28th due to additional time needed at work. We will keep you posted.

**** Club News ****

- ***TBWC Web Site***

Well, Todd is a go-getter and set up the site for us and will add information, as we need it with pictures and any other information. I want to thank Todd for spearheading this task for the club- well done. You can access the new web page at www.tbwalleye.com. He has already put some information out there for us and would gladly take any additional information that you might have to add items, pictures, or news. You should take a minute and see what it looks like.

- ***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 etc. at the monthly meetings for you to purchase.

- ***A Report From the Carl Kelly on the Herring Plant from the DNR***

I spoke with Dave Fielder at the local DNR fisheries station regarding the information on the planting of Herring. The DNR netted spawning Herring in the St. Mary's river area and tried on November 14th to spawn the eggs, but they were too green. They re-tried on the 19th, and they were almost over ripening showing that the eggs must have a very short honeymoon. The DNR wanted 22 mating pairs and got 44 pairs, which were a sample lift and an extension of the small sample from last year. If all goes well they should get 200,000 fingerlings for planting in about June. I was not told a location where they will all go, but Dave sounded pretty optimistic that Thunder Bay would get the plant. They have a treatment to clear VHS from these and Salmon type fish but are not sure if it will work on walleye eggs.

From my latest contact with the DNR, they have no final decision on James Pond for 2009.

- ***A Report and Update from Carl Kelly on the Dock Situation and Plans for 2009***

The city of Alpena will be replacing the docks at the harbor and one at the end on 11th street totaling five for the season. Lafarge has spoken for one. The county has spoken for one. I spoke with Jeff Thornton, county coordinator, and the county is planning to put their dock at the Fair Grounds. I know the county is not in real good shape financially, and I am afraid it may be a hit and miss situation. He is initially in favor of us getting all the remaining docks (4), renovating them and distributing them to various lakes. I attended a grant-writing seminar about a month ago, and two local foundations told me that the TBWC is the type of organizations they like to support. If the club approves, and all goes well, we should have enough to cover the costs through the grants. I am a long way from final estimates and costs and need the help of some members such as our resident dock expert Darwin Grabow!!!

The only difficulties we may have are groups readily support 501C3 tax-free organizations, and we are 501C4. I will have more details at the January meeting.

Upcoming Activities –

1. January 18, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Hubbard Lake—sponsor TBWC and Side Door Bait and Tackle
2. January 24, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Long Lake—Sponsor Burton's Last Resort
3. February 11, 2009- Speaker John Gilman
4. February 14, 2009- River Center Ice Fishing Extravaganza on Long Lake—Sponsor River Center Committee
5. February 21, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Grand Lake—Grand Lake Association
6. Troy Walwood- Date to be determined.
6. March- Annual Club Banquet

Other Events:

****- Please let Romeo know the events you are involved with by calling 356-1703 work 358-5215 email bourdager@charter.net – we'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments -****

**** Other Information****

- Jim Hiske fishing Grand Lake by Whiskey Pt. on Jan. 7th picked up a 23" walleye, some perch with two measuring 12" & 15", maybe Jim Leeseberg is right about fishing Whiskey Bay for the ***River Center- Sportsman's Island*** ice fishing tourney.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brent Holcomb

Mark Smolinski

Petoskey

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

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

Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month

AGENDA:

- Old Business
 - River Development project- club's participation update
 - Big Bite Baits- John Gilman (February Meeting)
 - Ice Fishing Tournaments: Burton's, the Clubs, ...
 - Web Site update from Todd Kruger
 - Garage Sale update from Bob
- New Business
 - John Gilman—Speaker
 - Troy Walwood