

Thunder Bay Walleye Club Newsletter

April 2014

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
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April is upon us, so don't forget to purchase your new 2014 fishing license and your boat launch sticker!

It's Almost Over! And Then!!!

Yep, it's been a long, long winter, and I'm sure everyone will agree that it's exciting to see the snow disappearing! Mother Nature is preparing to get her last few last licks in as this is being written, but we're officially in the home stretch. Usually there are a lot of people that really enjoy fishing last ice, but this year it seems most of us have an "I'm over it" attitude! With the cold weather hanging on so long, it's been pretty easy to dismiss the fact that the open water season is almost upon us. I know I've been a little slow at getting my gear in order, re-spooling, and straightening up the boat and such, how about you? One thing is for sure, the spawn will be a bit on the late side, and there will no doubt be some Walleyes still doing their fishy business come opening day and even beyond. Let's hope that we are soon blessed with some warm sunny weather that'll get us excited about getting outside and on the water. Until then, get your gear in order and let the anticipation build!

Proposed Grand Lake Challenge

Your thoughts and ideas are welcome and encouraged!

Remember, none of this is set in stone, and is in the discussion stages. This idea could possibly be tried on other bodies of water in the future as well.

Something that is in the works and could certainly put a new twist on one of our tournaments is a "Big Bonus Challenge" We've decided to propose a challenge to our membership by encouraging and enticing them to find or try new ways to fish Grand Lake – (and perhaps other lakes in the future) by offering **in addition to our regular payouts**, a considerable cash bonus, of say \$300 to \$500 (If we can pry it out of Denny) in the form of a "Bounty" for say a three fish weight of 10 pounds or more caught during to tournament. If more than one team achieves this goal, the team finishing in 2nd place would earn \$100 for their efforts. We could possibly offer up individual prizes for fish reaching a certain length as well, where say a fish 22 inches or more may be pay \$50 and a fish over 24 inches may be worth \$75 or even \$100.

The idea here is to generate some more excitement, incentive, and interest in some of our local resources. Yes, the goal may be difficult to achieve, and may very easily not be reached, yet it is still very much realistic possibility. Remember Thunder Bay when it was thought you could only catch walleye at night?

We know there are some very nice Walleye in Grand Lake, but what does it take to put together a consistent a catch. Let's try and find out! We have some fantastic fishing in our local inland lakes, but often times we get complacent in using the same old tactics and techniques every time we go out. Sometimes the tactics we use for our "average" fish, whatever they may be, are not what it takes to routinely trip the trigger of the big girls. This challenge in meant to give the guys, or girls some added incentive to figure out what makes the big ones tick.

Rules:

- There will be boat checks at the launch up to 7am. Only boats that have been inspected are eligible.
- Boats in this tournament will be restricted to 6 rods.
- All bonus prize fish must be brought to the weigh in "alive".
- Bonus prize money will only be awarded to the winning fishermen at a future club meeting where he/she explains the winning techniques and locations.

Wouldn't it really be nice to see events like these to once again become more educational? Back in the day, this is why the TBWC was formed. Though we are all are now undoubtedly better fishermen than we were back then, we tend to be much more tight lipped, or it sometimes seems that way. Many of us have a wealth of information and a huge bag of tricks, and while others may be really good at only one or two techniques or a specific body of water, that is useful and important knowledge. Let's face it, nobody is going to get rich fishing a club tournament, so let's help each other create some more successful days on the water, and within reason, be a little more open with information. If it's not close to tournament day, or maybe even if it is, why not share some information. In doing so we'll help others enjoy some of the great fishing we have in our own back yards, and make it more inviting to get some new folks involved in the club.

I know I enjoy helping the newer and less experienced fishermen get on a good bite. Anytime we can help and encourage people to get involved in fishing as a recreational activity, especially if it involves kids, it is great for our community. It also gives our club a good reputation.

2nd Annual Hooked for Life June 14, 2014 Lafarge Paxton Quarry

Last year was the first and was a huge success. 168 kids along with their parents attended the event at no charge. 6 stations which included basic tackle, fishing knots, fish and bait, learn to cast, nature walk, fishing regulations and safety. Age divisions were 2-5, 6-, 9-12 and 13-17. Every child left with a prize and a smile. The goal is to provide every child the opportunity to learn how to fish while being safe and enjoy the outdoors.

The club is supporting the event again this year.

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.

Email members have the membership year after their last name on emails sent by Denny Burns including the newsletter email.

Regular mailed member's membership year is on the envelope.

Make checks out to TBWC.

Annual Thunder Bay Walleye Club

Awards Banquet

Saturday, MAY 17th, 2014

Alpena Sportsman's Club

Agenda

Doors open at 4:30

Setups will be provided

BYOB

Games/Appetizers 5:00 - 7:00

Dinner at 7:00

Awards to follow dinner

Door Prizes!

Games! (for kids too)

Raffles!

Women's Baskets!

Dinner

By

Sherrie O'Brien

Country Apple Catering is certified by the State of Michigan

Hors D'oeuvres (Veggie Tray with crab dip), Dinner, Baked Chicken, Homemade Swedish Meatballs, Kielbasa with Sauerkraut, Real Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Buttered Corn, Glazed Carrots, Green Bean Almandine, Hot Rolls, Salad, and Desserts.

Dinner is \$15.00 per person at the door. **12 and under are free.**

***Please RSVP by Monday, May 12th, your name and how many adults, **12 and under** will attend to Dennis Burns at 989 354-2419 and leave a message or email to jackieodennyb@frontier.com. You do not have to be a member to participate. Please note that we will have to have an accurate # when you RSVP. We will not be able to accept ANY last minute attendees at the door for dinner. **From time to time there is a cancelation so if you forgot to RSVP by Monday May 17th contact Denny to see if we can accommodate you.**

Please consider contributing to the Newsletter!

**NO ONE EVER DOES THIS
IT SURE WOULD BE A NICE ADDITION 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: walleyesnyper@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.

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, spring tune up? 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.

E15 gasoline may cause damage to Boat Engines

MBIA is warning boat owners to watch the fuel they put in their tanks. The EPA has approved the use of E15 gasoline, even though it has only been approved for cars and light truck model years 2001 and newer. However, gasoline with ethanol blends over 10 percent can cause serious damage to your boat fuel tank and engine. Consumers are warned to check what type of gas they're buying before pumping. A small sticker with Ethanol levels should be found at the pump but some stations have not complied with this requirement.

“MBIA is not only trying to fight the rise of Ethanol in gasoline at a national level, but we want to warn local boaters about the dangers of E15 in an effort to prevent the hazardous risks of using E15 in marine engines,” said MBIA Executive Director Nicki Polan. Other power sports engines, lawn equipment and farm equipment are also at risk.

While most marinas will carry only 10 percent ethanol blends, ninety-five percent of all recreational boats are fueled at traditional gas stations according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA). Consumers beware: misfueling with E15 that causes engine damage will invalidate warranties on boating boats and automobiles. Tests conducted by major marine engine manufacturers have found E15 gasoline causes major problems, including damage to valves, push rods and bearings; performance issues, such as drivability; increased water absorption in the tank; fuel tank corrosion; increased emission of smog-forming pollutants; and potential safety issues for boaters who operate in harsh marine environments.

According to the NMMA, there are currently 400 million engines of all types not designed to run on more than 10% ethanol in the United States.

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 email me at walleynesnyper@hotmail.com we'd like to promote our member's activities and accomplishments.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday April 9th, 7pm 2014

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)

Agenda:

- Gota question, What would you like to see from the club?
- Club Banquet
- BT Update
- Grand Lake Challenge