

Thunder Bay Walleye Club Monthly Newsletter

August 2020

P.O. Box 812, Alpena, MI 49707

Officers			Board of Directors	
<i>President</i>	Eric Kruczynski		Jim Leesberg	
<i>Vice President</i>	Jon Kruttlin		Eric MacKenzie	
<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Dan VanMassenhove		Jeremy Phillips	
			Spencer Weidbrauk	

Next Meeting: Postponed until Governor Whitmer Relaxes Meeting Restrictions

Last Meeting Recap

August Meeting was canceled.

Extravaganza Recap

The Walleye Extravaganza went well this year. 46 teams entered. We gave away over \$21,000 in money and prizes. We had great feedback from all anglers that fished the event. Results of all the paying spots below.

2020 Walleye Extravaganza Results

1	Dematio/Dematio/Neubecker	26.75
2	VanTorre/Lenz	25.9
3	Bourdage/Haugerud/Haugerud	25.35
4	VanMassenhove/VanMassenhove/Franklin	24.7
5	Birk/McCaleb	24.05
6	Kruttlin/Sagady/Clements	23.15
7	Vogan/Demanski	22.6
8	Robbin/Melick/Zollen	22.55
9	Kruczynski/Kruczynski/Matuzak	21.85

Big Fish

1	Dematio/Dematio/Neubecker	7.3
2	MacKillop/Heckles/Hicks	6.85

Congrats to everyone that placed in the event!!! Huge thanks to all our sponsors and to all our volunteers that made this event possible. We are planning to do this again next year and it will be even bigger and better.

Club Merchandise

At our next meeting we will be voting to purchase gear to then resell to our members.

Rockport Tournament Recap

The bite leading up to this event was nothing short of amazing (and also after 😊). I was personally catching 15-25 fish per trip. All on cranks out deep utilizing both snap weights and lead core. Sunday we were unfortunately greeted with a severe low pressure system. The first low pressure system we've had in over 6 weeks and the first non-sunny day I can remember in just as long. That low pressure also intensified the waves as it always does and we were greeted with 3 footers and light rain in the morning. Walleyes were extra finicky but several teams managed to figure out a pattern to produce solid bags.

First place honors, and a well-deserved win, went to Chris Wade and Adam Peterson with 26 lbs and change. They worked a small pod of fish at the Wreck using a variety of crankbaits. Chrome patterns were there best on this particular day.

Second place was John Kruttlin and Travis Boyk. They also pulled big fish for the event at 6.12 lbs. They fished several spots, but Bell Bay and Middle Island areas produced their weigh fish. Their total weight was 24 lbs and change. Congrats to these guys but especially Jon. He has himself in excellent position to win AOY!

Third place went to Steve LaPlaunt and Tom Sharp with a total weight of 22 lbs even. They worked a pod of fish that was basically on the starting line where we all blasted off in the morning. Also pulling cranks. Great catch guys, and great work not running over top of fish to look for fish!

Angler of the Year

Next Tournament is at Hubbard Lake. Saturday September 20th, 7a-3p.

2020 TBWC AOY

	1	2	3	Total	Rank
John Kruttlin	99	99		198	1
Eric Kruczynski	98	93		191	2
Matt Matuzak	98	93		191	2
Nate Cosbitt	96	95		191	2

Chris Wade	88	100	188	3
Adam Peterson	88	100	188	3
Dan VanMassenhove	91	94	185	4
Gary Van Massenhove	91	94	185	4
Matt Franklin	91	94	185	4
Nick Bisanz	88	96	184	5
Zach Bisanz	88	96	184	5

Here's the standing for the AOY. Awesome job by John Kruttlin again. Consistency wins AOY and with 2 second places, John has been perfectly consistent thus far. Also, excellent work by young blood Nate Cosbitt! Keep after it Nate!!! Next and final event is Hubbard Lake in September. Hope to see you all there!

New Gear Review

This section is devoted to new fishing gear reviews. Each newsletter, we'd like a different member to share their personal review on some new (or new to them) fishing equipment they recently obtained. This is a great way to give some real-world feedback on new products to help the rest of our membership make purchasing choices. Gear is defined as any equipment used for the sport of walleye fishing, any season, any size. From ice cleats, shanty's, snowmobiles, boats, rod socks, etc. everything is game for this section no matter how big or how small...

Follow Up on my Bubba Knife Review...

My 110 Volt Bubba Electric broke on me when cleaning fish for our sponsors after the extravaganza. A gear stripped out or broke internally. I called Bubba and they said they'd send me a replacement out. They did not ask for a receipt. They only needed a pic of the white tag that is on the chord. I emailed that to them along with my address, and I received a new knife kit 10 days later. Not just a new knife, but a whole new case, 4 new blades, etc. Now that was some quality customer service and support, I thought. If you own one of these...Make sure you keep that tag on your chord, or if you do cut it off, I recommend keeping it somewhere safe.

Fishing Reports

We are asking members to please contribute detailed fishing reports with photos. The idea here is to share our knowledge with our membership base. For those of you not wanting to blow your spot up by sharing information...well the idea here is to all expand our knowledge, it's one of the main focuses of the club. You don't have to give exact coordinates to your location, but rather focus on techniques, presentations, and structure features. Also, this is sent to membership several weeks after you submit your report, and THAT bite you reported is no longer there. So please share so we can all learn more!!!

Frankly, our tournaments and league events provide all the reports you need this time of year. It is the best way to learn, and they are a ton of fun. If you truly want to learn more about walleye fishing. Join us at the fishing events. In summary it's the dog days of summer. Walleyes are only in one of 2 spots right now...deep in the basin associated on or around deep-water structure, or buried in the weeds, gorging despite the warm water.

Classifieds

Please email me: Eric.Kruczynski@yahoo.com if you have any for sale items you'd like listed. Items will be listed for one monthly newsletter cycle, unless requested for an additional extension each month

2017 Warrior V208 – My boat is officially for sale and list on Walleye Central as well. 300 & 9.9 yami's (650 hrs), 36v Terrova, 3-9" Lowrance Carbons, Wave Pro 2.0s, Traxtech rod holders, Cannon Mag 10s, Trim Tabs, Marine Radio, and much more. List price is \$70,000. You will be hard pressed to find a better rigged and performing boat for the great lakes, and it is always well cared for and garage stored. If anyone is seriously interested, please contact me. Eric Kruczynski (989) 766-0289

TBWC Member Businesses. Please support our fellow members!!!

During this Covid19 pandemic, all businesses are having a very difficult time. Please show support for your fellow TBWC members!!! We all have a buying choice. I hope that each and everyone of our members consider buying from a fellow member to support them.

Nate Engstrom – The Boat House

(989) 340-1120

Full-service dealer for: Ranger Boats, Avalon Pontoons, Starcraft/Starweld, Smokercraft, Yamaha, Mercury, and a full line of associated OMC parts, and supplies. Sells and installs all major name brand electronics. Also sells Wave Pro suspension seats!

Brad Valley – Valley's Canvas

(989) 464-1191

Full-service dealer for Minnkota and Cannon. Full service custom canvas shop.

Jon Kruttlin – Alcona Motors

(888) 572-3878

Full-service Chevy and Buick dealer.

Justin Champagne – Northern Dents

(877) 200-4245

Paintless Dent Removal.

Jeff Tucholski – Gator Bait Tackle

(989) 255-0336

Walleye Tackle Supplier and More...

Ed Reutherford – Trout Scout Charters

(989) 657-2681

Salmon, Trout, and Walleye Charters NE MI

Carl Hatalja – Crazy Carl's Sport Fishing

(989) 255-8744

Walleye, Trout, and Salmon Charters NE MI...Also Custom Rod Holders

Erich Carlson – Carlson Wildlife Art

(989) 464-5623

Hand painted, one of a kind, wildlife art.

Final Notes

- I'm finishing up this new letter, and Brett King happens to be sitting in my living room while I'm typing this up...I asked him for one tid bit of advice that he could offer young anglers that are starting out on catching more walleyes. He said "put your time in, the most important factor in learning to catch more fish is time on the water!"

2019 AOY.....Mark Haugerud