

# Thunder Bay Walleye Club Monthly Newsletter

May 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	

## April 8, 2020 Meeting Highlights

The May Meeting was canceled.

- This meeting was canceled due as mandated by Executive Order (EO).
- DNR has now legalized tournaments as long as social distancing is used. Therefore, Nite Eyes (June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm-2:00am Alpena Boat Harbor) and the remainder of our tournament scheduled will be held.
- Angler of the Year will be based on the remaining 3 tournaments, so don't miss out on this shoot out!!!
- As of right now the fishing portion of the Brown Trout is still on along with the Walleye Extravaganza.

**Next Meeting: Whenever we can legally meet in groups again. Suspended until further notice.**

## 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...*

**18" Lindy Drift Sock** – Drift socks/trolling socks are a must have for any serious walleye angler. Drift socks are probably the most under utilized trolling tool there is. Even with the combination of a bow mount trolling motor/and stern kicker...when the wind kicks up, and waves are big...it is essential to deploy a pair of drift socks on each side of the boat. They will minimize wave surge and increase boat control. Both of which will drastically increase your bites.

I and a few other TBWC members prefer to use Lindy Drift Control Socks. You can get them on Ebay or Amazon for around \$20. I highly recommend them.



-Eric Kruczynski *President TBWC...*

## 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!!!*

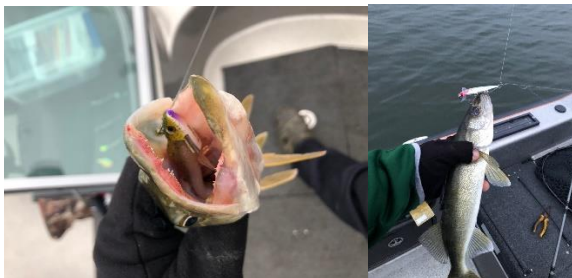
**5-1-2020 Eric & Gage Kruczynski, Augres, MI** – Gage and I made the trek out to the charity island and found a nice pod of fish in 30 ft of water. We casted lipless crank baits and scored on a pile of walleye, some bonus whitefish, and a lake trout.



**5-5-2020 Eric & Gage Kruczynski, Hubbard Lake** – After covering some water and checking conditions we found a pocket of dirty water in the south end. It was small and shallow so we again utilized casting lipless crank baits. We were rewarded with our limit of walleyes and also went through over 20 large small mouth. Numbers are definitely down a bit but the average size is definitely up!



**5-14-2020 Eric Kruczynski Long Lake** – I went out to test some casting techniques. Caught a pile of northern pike and small mouth throwing a ½ oz Berkley snap jig. Once I put out the planer boards I landed 7 walleye from 16-22” before calling it a night. I fished all over the lake. No spot was better than another.



**5-22 through 5-28 2020 Eric Kruczynski, Chis Wade, and many others, Thunder Bay** – Spring offers us a unique opportunity here in Alpena. Every year massive schools of female lake trout push shallow as the water warms up. Our favorite summer walleye spots are often full of 1,000s of them. We can catch them at this time using our walleye gear as they can be found in 30 ft of water or less. You can also cast for them with great success. The only fish in the great lakes that fights harder than a salmon is a large lake trout, especially when they are shallow and on lighter tackle. Lake Trout, especially the ones that use gobies as their main diet are also excellent table fare. Through this stretch my boat has landed over 200 trout. Gage and I had to take today off to literally rest our arms, lol. And I’ve yet to see another boat in any spot I’ve fished. Here are a few of dozens of photos I’ve taken over this past week...



## Classifieds

Please email me: [Eric.Kruczynski@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

## **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, Evinrude and a full line of associated OMC parts, and supplies. Sells and installs all major name brand electronics.
- 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

- Stay Safe Everyone!!!!

**2019 AOY.....Mark Haugerud**